# The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine

Vol. 86, No. 3 1620 – 2020 Fall 2020

*The General Society of Mayflower Descendants*

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2017-2020

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*The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*

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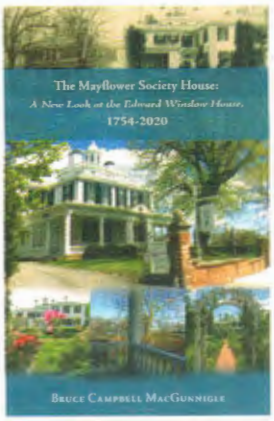
Copy Editors - Erin Darling, Beth Godfrey & Ruth Lucchesi

Contact our Office:
508.746.3188
Inquiries@TheMayflowerSociety.org

# Hot off the Press: New 2020 Book!!




***The Mayflower Society House: A New Look at the Edward Winslow House, 1754-2020,***
**by Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle.**
**(Susan E. Roser, ed., Plymouth, 2020)**

Former Governor General Bruce MacGunnigle takes a fresh look at the history of the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth. His detailed research into land records resulted in a history of those who owned the land and the house in the past 266 years, with the transcripts of 29 deeds included. Of particular interest are the 1782 deeds which describe each room of the house. We learn about the owners - the Winslows, the Briggs, the Jacksons and the Willoughbys.

The WWII years when the Red Cross occupied the house are covered with fascinating articles from the *Old Colony Memorial*. There is a 1946 letter dictated to Lucia Briggs by her mother, Mary Briggs in which she relates her memories when she lived in the house. We hear from the architect, Joseph Everett Chandler, in his own words, and much, much more.

The highlights of the book are, of course, the photos, 38 pictures and images, showcasing the house at various stages in the past, both exterior and interior.

To order, visit **www.TheMayflowerSociety.org/shop** or contact **sales@TheMayflowerSociety.org**. Price, $30.00. A perfect 2020 keepsake!

***The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*** (ISSN 0148-5032) is published quarterly by the not-for-profit General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 4 Winslow St, Plymouth, MA 02360. The magazine is available to all GSMD members in good standing as well as by annual subscription to the public for $24 (+ shipping for those outside the continental US). Periodical postage paid at Plymouth, Massachusetts and additional offices. ***POSTMASTER:*** Send address changes to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, PO Box 3297, Plymouth, MA 02361-3297.

***Deadlines for submission:***

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| January 10: | April 10: | July 10: | October 10: |
| Spring Issue | Summer Issue | Fall Issue | Winter Issue |

***Submissions:*** To submit to *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*, please email MQMEditor@TheMayflowerSociety.org. All articles submitted should be sent as Microsoft Word documents, photographs submitted should be sent as 300 dpi resolution or higher.

***Office & Library:***
*4 Winslow Street*
*Plymouth, MA 02360*

***Mailing Address:***
*P.O. Box 3297*
*Plymouth, MA 02361-3297*
*MQM@TheMayflowerSociety.org*

**To order the beautiful 400th Anniversary Pin on our front cover, please see our back cover.**

The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine
Volume 86, No. 3
Fall 2020

General Society of Mayflower Descendants
Mayflower Voyage 400 Year Anniversary 1620-2020

## Editor's Note

This is one of my favorite pictures with two of my favorite people, Ren and Muriel Cushing. Ren is a Former Captain General and Muriel is the Historian of the Florida Society and author of the *the Patriot to Passenger Project*. They are extremely active in the Mayflower Society. Ren and Muriel have had some health issues this year and I know we are all so pleased to hear they are doing well!

**NEW EDITOR NEEDED!** As I reported at the GBOA meeting in Denver last year, I will be stepping down as Editor after the completion of 20 issues, with the winter 2020 issue. Our finances are such that we are looking for another **volunteer** to take on this important task. We know that we have many talented professionals among our membership, and hope that someone may be interested in taking this on. If you have editing experience in design and layout and are looking for a stimulating challenge, as well as an opportunity to actively support our Society, please contact me at **rosers@sympatico.ca** with your qualifications.

**NEW BOOK!** ***The Mayflower Society House: A New Look at the Edward Winslow House, 1754-2020,* by Former Governor General Bruce C. MacGunnigle.** This is a wonderful 2020 keepsake that all of our members will want, and it's also a great gift idea for family, or a raffle/door prize for Member Society meetings! Check the opposite page for details.

**Massachusetts Governor** Charles Baker has announced that the state will not be moving into Phase IV until there is a vaccine. Our staff, under the able direction of Executive Director Susan Belekewicz, has demonstrated remarkable resilience in adapting to the unexpected circumstances we find ourselves in. Work has continued with a combination of staff rotation in the office and working remotely.

This issue contains the **Minutes of the General Board of Assistants Meeting** which was held by Zoom on June 20, 2020. At this meeting, the officers present approved a motion to hold a **Special Zoom Congress Meeting** on September 26, 2020 to carry out two items of business. Details on this upcoming meeting are within, along with the proposed bylaw amendments and nominating committee report, both of which will be voted on at this Zoom meeting.

Please note that an error has been found in the summer *Quarterly* - but did it have to be on the cover? The volume number should say 86, not 87.

Warmest wishes to you and your families to stay healthy and well.

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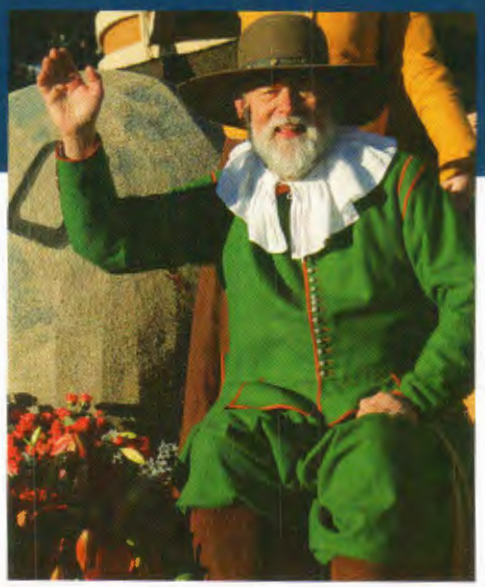
# Governor General's Message

*George P. Garmany Jr., MD*



In 1620 when the Leyden Separatists climbed aboard the *Speedwell*, they expected to sail with her to the New World. A few weeks later many of them transferred to the *Mayflower*, planning to go to Northern Virginia. After their harrowing voyage across the Atlantic, they found themselves in unexpected territory without any form of official permission to be there. Everyone in their company had survived the voyage, so they were confident, as they composed the *Mayflower Compact*, that over one hundred people would settle the new colony. As we all know, their winter epidemic would kill half of their members before spring planting. Despite all of those setbacks, the Pilgrims persevered and survived to leave the millions of descendants who live in our midst today.

In January 2020, as the *Voyage of Hope* began its short "cruise" in the Rose Parade, all of us aboard expected that 2020 would be full of great events and opportunities for our fellow descendants to gather to commemorate this very special anniversary. Like our ancestors, we were to be disappointed by events that were completely out of anyone's control. At this writing, every single commemorative event that had been planned for the later portion of 2020 has been cancelled, and people who do venture to Plymouth from out of state are expected to self-quarantine upon arrival.

Like our ancestors, we too must take a long view with our eyes on a distant future. We realize that sacrifices that we make today will be beneficial for our Society and for our own descendants. We value the opportunity to pull together at a time when current events and inflamed passions seem to keep pulling everyone apart. In the heart of this pandemic, GSMD is starting to use new tools to communicate and share ideas with each other. When we leverage the communication media that we are just starting to use, we will be able to reach out to our members far more effectively than we have in the past. The upcoming "Virtual Congress" will give us a golden opportunity to build our Society into a stronger organization that will honor our mission and our ancestors even more effectively than we are able to do today.

Since we will not hold a face-to-face meeting this fall, I will not have the opportunity to personally thank all of the people who have contributed so graciously to our Society over the last few years. General Society Officers, Committee Members, and Member Society Officers have all worked tirelessly, strengthening GSMD during the last three years! Thanks to each of you as fully as possible in this "socially distant" environment that we now occupy. One person who deserves special appreciation is AGG Susan Roser. In addition to her role as Assistant Governor General, she has served as the volunteer editor of the *Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* for five years. She will retire from her editorship after the next issue, the last one for 2020. Every one of us will truly miss her sterling performance in that role.

I pray for the day – hopefully before too long – when we will all be able to meet together again and I'll be able to thank each of you as warmly as you fully deserve. For now, stay safe and keep in good health until we can gather again with one another.

# In Memoriam

*The MQM remembers those officers who have served on the board of a Member Society, and as a General Society officer as a Deputy Governor General and Assistant General, and those who have served on the Executive Committee. If a past or present officer of your Society has passed away and you would like to remember them in the Quarterly, please send their information to* ***MQMeditor@TheMayflowerSociety.org.***

**VIRGINIA MCLALLIN KAISER** passed 6 July 2020. Virginia was a former Board of Assistants member of the Washington Mayflower Society. Over the years she participated in leadership of the Society, last being in attendance at the last Compact luncheon. Virginia's daughter Kathleen Quickstad is a currently a BOA member.

**MARTHA (MOLLY) EGLY** passed away in July of 2020. A longtime member of the Washington Mayflower Society member, she was 99 years old and would soon have reached 100.

# General Board of Assistants Special Worldwide Online Meeting

***June 20, 2020, 2:00 p.m. EDT, Minutes***

The General Board of Assistants Special Worldwide Online Meeting was called to assemble by Assistant Governor General Susan E. Roser on Saturday, June 20, 2020, virtually using the ZOOM.us platform. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time by Governor General George P. Garmany Jr., MD with Secretary General Jane E. Hurt in attendance.

The invocation was given by Elder General Reverend Dr Thomas Pike.

Professional Registered Parliamentarian, Mary Scout, was appointed and welcomed by Governor General Garmany. Mrs. Scout gave an overview of parliamentary procedure including the role of the parliamentarian.

Governor General Garmany announced the appointment of Assistant Governor General Susan Roser as timekeeper for this meeting. Assistant Governor General Susan Roser, Secretary General Jane Hurt and Parliamentarian Mary Scout were appointed as tellers.

Due to the Coronavirus emergency pandemic, the 42nd Triennial Congress scheduled for September 2020 was cancelled. Governor General Garmany announced that a notice was sent to all 54 Member Societies to request a Special Session of the General Congress [to be held 20 June 2020] and waive the 3 months' notice to avoid the necessity and medical risk of planning to travel to Plymouth later this year. (GSMD Constitution and Bylaws, Article VII, Section 3: Special Meetings). Although the Constitution and Bylaws don't provide for a waiver of notice, a waiver of notice by members is permitted by default under the Massachusetts Non-profit Corporation Act. Unanimous consent was required, 51 Societies agreed and 3 (Florida, New York and Tennessee) were not in agreement. Therefore, today's meeting was announced as a General Board of Assistants Meeting with the business limited to a call for a Special Congress to be scheduled at least 3 months from today's date, complying with the Bylaws requirement. Governor General Garmany recapped the instructions for the meeting.

## ROLL CALL

Secretary General Hurt began the roll call with the General Officers, the Former Governors General and the Former Assistant Governors General; the following were present:

**Executive Committee Officers**

*Governor General*
George P. Garmany Jr., MD

*Assistant Governor General*
General Susan E. Roser

*Secretary General*
Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt

*Treasurer General*
Elizabeth 'Liz' W. Gaudreau, CPA

*Historian General*
Marjorie 'Midge' K. Hurtuk

*Counsellor General*
Richard S. Gilmore, Esq.

*Captain General*
Jeff Stark

*Elder General*
Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Pike

*Surgeon General*
Naomi S. Mann, MD

**Executive Committee Members-at-Large**
Lisa H. Pennington, Esq.
Donald T. Studley, CPA
Jane Duxbury Schleinzer

**Former Governors General**
Judith H. Swan
Bruce C. MacGunnigle
Lea Sinclair Filson

**Former Assistant Governors General** (included above)

Secretary General Hurt continued the roll call of the General Board of Assistants; the following were present, Deputy Governors General and Assistants General:

**AL:** DGG Alan M. Davis

**AK:** Acting DGG Leslie Vieth

**AZ:** DGG Andrew Turner
AG Matthew W Harrison

**AR:** AG Jimmie Weber

**AUS:** Acting DGG
William 'Bill' Elliott
Acting AG Steve Arnold

**CA:** DGG Marcia Maloney
AG Ray Raser

**CAN:** DGG Maureen E. McGee
AG Glenn Steven Cook

**CO:** DGG Michelle L. Brown
AG Richard Jeffords

**CT:** DGG Mary F. Brown
AG Gregory E. Thompson

**DE:** DGG Noel H. Kuhrt, Jr.
AG Robert J. Hanson, Jr.

**D.C.:** DGG Glennon Harrison
AG Elizabeth 'Beth' Hicks

**EU:** Acting AG Nancy Naro

**FL:** DGG Reynolds Cushing
AG Kenneth Carter

**GA:** DGG Arthur E. Chapman

**HI:** DGG Elbridge W Smith
AG Lynda J. Hylander

**ID:** DGG Deborah Lasher-Hardy

**IL:** DGG John Schellinger
Acting AG Ann Wilkerson

**IN:** DGG Chuck Provost
AG Laura Smith

**IA:** DGG Daniel Weichman
AG Kenneth R. Callison

**KA:** Acting DGG
Della J. Regenold
Acting AG John Sherman

**KY:** Acting AG Anissa Davis

**LA:** Acting DGG David E. Green

**ME:** AG Carla Rigby, PhD

**MD:** AG Timothy Mallory

**MA:** Acting DGG
Barbara-Lee Kelly
Acting AG Polly Kimmitt

**MI:** DGG Grace B. Smith, PhD
Acting AG Mary Ellen Byrne

**MN:** DGG Lorraine A. Link
AG Gregory Oxley

**MS:** DGG Charles M. Johnson
AG Nancy Harrison

**MO:** DGG Lei Ruckle-Ausman
Acting AG Vicki Smith

**MT:** AG JoAnn Piazzola

**NE:** DGG Gretchen Harvey
AG Kathryn Morrisey

**NV:** DGG Mary Tabor Griswold
AG Richard L. Webster

**NH:** DGG Heather D. Rojo
AG Anne L. Vadakin

**NJ:** DGG Nancy Popielarski
AG Stephen H. Gibbon

**NM:** Acting DGG Carl Malone
AG Judith Rapping

**NY:** DGG Adelaide P. Farah
AG Susan Abanor

**NC:** DGG Michael C. Keleher
AG Martha E. Ward

**ND:** DGG Phillip LaQua
Acting AG
Margaret 'Marti' Bobertz

**OH:** DGG Sandra St Martin
AG Dr. Donald Nichols

**OK:** DGG Katherine A. Patterson

**OR:** Acting DGG Patrice Peterson
Acting AG
Helene 'Beth' Lambright

**PA:** DGG Reed Kneale
Acting AG Deb G. Miller

**RI:** Acting DGG
William Ulmschneider
Acting AG
Nancy Wildes, Esq.

**SC:** DGG Bonnie W. Mucia
AG Marylen Jackson

**SD:** DGG Carter O. Wiese
AG Sharon C. Wiese

**TN:** DGG Dennis C. Klotter
AG Peggie Sides

**TX:** DGG Michael Nichols
Acting AG Prarie Counce

**UT:** DGG Thomas P. Portlock

**VT:** DGG Randy L. Roberts
AG Cynthia Roberts

**VA:** DGG Lee Woody
AG James H. Maloney

**WA:** DGG Judy Arnold
Acting AG
Cheryl J. Riggs Eastwood

**WV:** DGG Vickie L. Baker
AG Martha Whitlock Endres

**WI:** Acting DGG
Charlene Janeczko
Acting AG Diane W. Liebert

**WY:** DGG Elwood M. Porter II

All 54 Member Societies were represented. This was the first for our Society.

**Motion to Seat Members and Acting Members**
**MOTION:** Secretary General Hurt moved "to seat the officers and acting officers present during the roll call." Adopted.

**Adoption of Standing Rules**
**MOTION:** Secretary General Hurt moved "the Standing Rules be adopted as presented." There being no objection with a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, the standing rules were adopted. Adopted.

**Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was distributed prior to the meeting and shared on the screen. With no objection, the agenda was approved as distributed. Approved.

**Approval of Minutes of the 07 September 2019 General Board of Assistants Meeting**
The minutes of the 07 September 2019 General Board of Assistants Meeting held in Denver, Colorado, were approved as distributed by e-mail to the GBOA,

published in the winter 2019 issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* and posted on the GSMD website. Approved.

**Actions of the Executive Committee**
The actions of the Executive Committee dated December 2019, March, April and May 2020 were distributed by e-mail to all General Board of Assistants members. Therefore, Secretary General Hurt read only the actions of the Executive Committee meetings held on 09 June and 13 June 2020.

**09 June 2020**

1. That we hire outside legal counsel to offer a legal opinion whether, during the state of emergency issued by the Massachusetts Governor resulting in special guidelines for non-profit charitable organizations, the GBOA can amend the Constitution and Bylaws and elect officers, or, alternatively, if the GBOA can vote to change the June 20 meeting to a Special Congress.

**13 June 2020**

2. To approve the minutes of the 13 May 2020 Executive Committee Virtual ZOOM meeting as distributed.

3. To approve the minutes of the 09 June 2020 SPECIAL Executive Committee Virtual ZOOM meeting as distributed.

4. To approve the purchase of 2020 pins at $709.00 for 300 pins.

5. To approve the purchase of 600 challenge coins at a cost of $4656.00 in August, for 300 challenge coins to be available in September commemorating the Mayflower and 300 challenge coins in November commemorating the *Signing of the Mayflower Compact*.

6. The approval of up to $3,000.00 to ZOOM.us for support of the meeting bandwidth issues, contingent on a discussion with ZOOM that they believe it would be adequate for our needs.

7. The Executive Committee, if the Constitution and Bylaws Proposed Amendments are approved, to recommend the fee adopted in Proposed Amendment #2, if Proposed Amendment #4 is adopted that would supersede #2, to become the lineage fee assessment effective as adopted.

8. The Executive Committee, if the Constitution and Bylaws Proposed Amendments are approved, to recommend the fee adopted in Proposed Amendment #3, if Proposed Amendment #5 is adopted that would supersede #3, to become the per capita assessment effective as adopted.

9. To pay James W. Baker $5,000.00 in this fiscal year for his *Made in America* book.

10. To pay Former Governor General Swan for an additional 15 hours for service on the Dispute Resolution Committee.

11. To accept the 3-month budget as presented and for a full year 2020-2021 budget reviewed by the Finance Committee to be presented for approval prior to September.

12. To strike item 3, Archives Access Procedures, GSMD Policy Manual, Policy 30, p22, per an agreement reached during the Morgan lawsuit. To strike the following:

    If the Executive Director will not be available on the proposed day that the member wishes to view the archival material, then a date that is mutually convenient to the Director and the member shall be arranged. If no date has been agreed upon, the member may not assume that permission has been granted on the day requested.

13. As a result of the Morgan lawsuit, the Secretary General was authorized to make a date correction to the cover page of the GSMD Constitution and Bylaws, *"Incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, February 19, 1923"* to February 09, 1923.

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**Executive Committee Actions:**
**October - December 2019**

The following Executive Committee actions were distributed to the GBOA by email.

**22 October 2019**

1. To adopt the agenda.

2. To ratify the minutes for 05 September 2019 Executive Committee meeting.

3. To ratify the minutes of the 22 October Conference Call meeting.

4. To approve the minutes of the 19 November 2019 Executive Conference Call meeting.

5. To set the price for the Governor's Reception and private viewing of the Bradford Manuscript at $125.00 per person which includes the optional participation in the Pilgrim Progress in pilgrim attire.

6. To approve two charter buses through Boston Charter Bus Company ("Shofur"), roundtrip from Plymouth Hotel 1620 to Boston Park Plaza Hotel, at $1500 per bus with a maximum capacity of 58

passenger per bus, totaling 116 passengers, at the rate of $30.00 per person.

7. To approve the rental of four trolleys, each with a capacity of 28 passengers, for 12 hours on Wednesday through Friday of Congress week, in the amount of $27,000.00. This service is being provided for our members requiring additional assistance in negotiating the expanded Congress venue.

8. To recognize the gifts donated to GSMD for the 400th Anniversary during the General Congress Opening Ceremony with a display of the art to be featured during the Welcome Reception in the Mayflower Society House.

9. To increase the Heritage Week Breakfast reservation fee from $45.00 to $50.00 per person.

10. To approve the 990's for filing.

11. Executive Committee officers and FGG Filson will contribute $77.00 each to cover the cost of a $1,000.00 donation to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts toward the purchase of a replica cannon to be placed on Burial Hill.

**November 2019 (ratified)**

12. To approve the adoption of criteria for the Mary Chilton Winslow Scholarship Fund as a new policy.

**NEW POLICY:** The Mary Chilton Winslow Scholarship Fund Policy. The Mary Chilton Winslow Scholarship Program will be offered to graduating seniors by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants through a designated fund, the Mary Chilton Winslow Scholarship Endowment Fund ("the fund"). This program will operate according to the following guidelines:

a. The current Trustees for the House Endowment Fund, the Pilgrim Fund and the Joyce Parke Fund will have fiduciary responsibility for this fund as they have for all other funds under their oversight;

b. The initial investment donation and any future donations will be held in a separate investment account and will be managed as directed by the Endowment Trustees;

c. Designated new donations will be added to the fund's investments on a periodic basis throughout the year;

d. The amount of scholarship funds available for distribution in a given year will be determined by withdrawing 4% of the principal balance as of December 31st of each year. These funds will be withdrawn from the investment account to fund scholarship awards;

e. An applicant must have a direct lineage connection to a member of the General Society, i.e., junior member, junior life member, or child or grandchild of a current member. No other relationship shall be considered.

f. The application period would be January 1 through February 28 with the award made no later than June 1 of the same year. Applicants must be high school seniors during the application period.

g. As needed, a committee of education professionals is to be named by the Governor General each year to refine the application and materials required.

h. Scholarship payments are to be made payable only to the school of the recipient, never directly to the recipient themselves

13. That GSMD purchase the 1862 edition of *The Poems of Arthur Hugh Clough, inscribed as given to Lydia C. Jackson,* August 18,1862, for $400.00.

14. To set the 2020 Registration fee for staff at $20 off the registration fee as follows: $65 (Early Bird Registration), $80 (Regular Registration) and $105 (Late Registration). And to set a price for Staff Gala-only plus registration at $100 per person for Early Bird Registration, $115 per person for Regular Registration and $130 per person for Late Registration.

15. To amend by striking and inserting the Check Signing Authority Policy as follows: Policy #7: Check Signing Authority Adopted March 2011; Amended March 2015. The Governor General, Treasurer General, Executive Director and Director of Finance are authorized to sign checks for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, subject to bonding requirements.

16. To amend the Scholarship Program Policy #61: Adopted September 2011, Amended September 2015, Amended November 2019, by inserting the underlined words as follows:
The General Society scholarship program is established under the following conditions:

    a. One or more scholarships in an amount annually determined by the Executive Committee, funded by the General Society, would be awarded each year by June 1."

    b. The scholarship(s) would be known as the General Society of Mayflower Descendants Scholarship, and not named after any individual.

c. Donations to the scholarship program would be accepted from January 1 through December 31 each year. If donations have been designated during the year and are not used in the scholarship year, unused funds will be carried over to the next year until used.

d. The application period would be January 1 through February 28 with the award made no later than June 1 of the same year. Applicants must be high school seniors during the application period.

e. An applicant must have a direct lineage connection to a member of the General Society, i.e., junior member, junior life member, or child or grandchild of a current member. No other relationship would be considered.

f. A committee of education professionals would be named to refine the application and materials required.

Change the following:

g. As needed, a committee of education professionals is to be named each year by the Governor General to refine the application and materials required.

Add the following:

h. Scholarship payments are to be made payable only to the school of the recipient, never directly to the recipient themselves.

**07 December 2019**

17. **Family Society Partnership Policy #77: Adopted March 2016; Amended Sept. 2016; Amended Dec. 2019**
Participation in Family Societies serves to enrich the GSMD member experience. New GSMD members represent a potential pool of new members for Family Societies and Family Societies' non-GSMD members represent a potential pool of new members for GSMD. To promote mutual growth through reciprocity, GSMD fosters partnerships with Family Societies.

To this end, on an annual basis, for a donation of an amount specified by the Executive Committee, a Family Society may become a recognized GSMD Family Society Partner. Each calendar year annual benefits will be reviewed and may be restated by the Executive Committee. Benefits for the coming year will be announced at the time of partnership renewal and will be in place for the calendar year.

18. To continue the Family Society Partnership fee at $250.00 for the 2020 calendar year.

19. That once the requirements have been met, GSMD will accept the petition of members to form an Australia Society.

**Executive Committee Actions: January - March 2020**

**15 January 2020**

1. To approve the minutes of the 07 December 2019 Executive Committee meeting.

2. To set pricing for the 2020 Booth Rental Fees for Exhibitors as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Member Societies | $150 |
| Family Society Partners | $165 |
| Family Society Non-Partners | $225 |
| Nonprofit Partners | $225 |
| Vendors | $300 |

3. That the 2020-2021 Commemorative Historians Brick Walkway Program be implemented with donations for Historian bricks at $200 per brick.

**19 February 2020**

4. To approve the minutes of the 15 January 2020 Executive Committee conference call meeting.

5. To accept Mike Haywood's Miles Standish Portrait donation proposal.

**14 March 2020**

6. To approve the minutes of the 19 February 2020 Executive Committee conference call meeting.

7. The five Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws for submission to the 2020 General Congress are approved to be distributed to the Secretary of each Member Society.

8. We spend $300.00, payable to Shields Design to help with the design of a 2020 Pilgrim Certificate.

9. We cancel the GSMD Heritage Week breakfast and notify those registered.

**Executive Committee Actions: April - May 2020**

**15 April 2020**

1. To approve the minutes of the 14 March 2020 Executive Committee conference call meeting as distributed.

2. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, to cancel Congress and the commemorative events in September 2020 and refund registrations including

the registration fee. To schedule a virtual GBOA in the near future with the agenda to be determined.

3. To postpone Officer Reports and the remaining agenda items until the next Executive Committee meeting, Wednesday, April 22, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. (Plymouth time).

**22 April 2020**

1. To approve the minutes of the 15 April 2020 Executive Committee video meeting as corrected.

2. To allow the Historian General's office to proceed without signatures on applications - to verify, approve, assign numbers and process applications.

3. To support the Secretary General and the Meetings and Events Committee, to proceed to make plans for the 2021 GBOA meeting and support the financial negotiations on contracts, to apply 2020 deposits and move the vendors and commemorative events into 2021 when possible.

**13 May 2020**

1. To approve the minutes of the 22 April 2020 Executive Committee video meeting as distributed.

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**Motion to hold a Special General Congress**
**MOTION:** Michael Keleher, DGG, North Carolina moved *"in accordance with Article VII, Section 3, of the Constitution and Bylaws, that a special session of the General Congress be held on September 26, 2020, in Plymouth at a time determined by the Governor General. If the health emergency in Massachusetts remains in effect, then the General Congress will be held electronically on the same date. The business to be conducted at the special meeting is:*

1. *Consideration of amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws and*

2. *The election of Deputy Governors General, Assistants General, and General Officers.*

*The adoption of this motion shall constitute the call for a special meeting."* With no objection, the motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Governor General Garmany summarized the action of this GBOA stating a Special Congress Meeting is called for September 26, 2020 with the agenda limited to the items noted in the motion. We must be allowed to hold an in-person meeting of the size required (100 attendees) to be held in Plymouth otherwise this Special Congress meeting will be an online electronic meeting with details to be announced once we are within sixty days and it is known if Massachusetts remains under emergency orders which allows for electronic meetings.

Governor General Garmany will plan a special online forum in late July to discuss Life Membership concerns regarding the proposed amendment to increase the annual assessment.

With no further business the Special 2020 General Board of Assistants Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

*- Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt, Secretary General*

**Approved:** June 24, 2020

*- Governor General George P. Garmany, Jr., MD*

**Statement read by Michael C. Keleher, DGG from North Carolina**

Dear Mayflower Cousins,

This year was supposed to have been a major Celebration for the GSMD, but unfortunately, it has now turned into a major confrontation that could have easily been avoided via a ZOOM Congress.

Our General Society of Mayflower Descendants is NOT A CLUB! Unfortunately, some of our members act as if it is a club, and treat any increase in fees and dues with fear and trepidation! The GSMD is a business, and it MUST be treated as a business!

No one wants anything to cost more! That's a given! However, membership in our Society is not mandatory! Cost increases are, and have always been a fact of life!

This upcoming meeting is going to be vital to the future of the GSMD. We are currently losing $50.00 per application, and thus have close to **$400.000.00**** in deficit spending per year to our society! This is financial suicide!

If we do not agree to allow the GSMD BOA (not just the Executive Committee!) to once a year make financial decisions to maintain the Health of the GSMD, then we are making a grave mistake. Besides, once we have this provision in place, if we find that we have made a mistake or mis-calculation, we can then make a change

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** *Please note that the loss of $400,000 annually is a reference to the application fee shortfall, not a true loss to GSMD's bottom line. Instead of the $400,000 being covered by application fee income as it should be, the "loss" was covered by funding intended for other purposes. Our challenge is that the cost of an application should be covered by the income from applications. PERIOD. Although this shortfall in processing applications was first identified in 2017, it is probable that the delta between the costs being incurred and the income to cover it had been happening for a few years or more before being discovered. Due to our Constitution and Bylaws, no action to resolve this shortfall could be taken until the 2020 Congress.*

the next year, and not have to wait for up to 3 years to correct a possible problem! What a great change!

Your GSMD, your Society, is now at the brink of financial insolvency without guidance and assistance from all of the Societies, the duly elected DGGs and AGs. We must move forward, and we must put the GSMD back into a position of Financial Stability. I believe that we must agree to the Amendments placed before us, and I pray that we will approve these amendments!

I truly believe, with all of my heart, that the Future of the GSMD lies with where we go from here. It is our moral Fiduciary Responsibility! If we fail on these amendments to our GSMD Constitution, then also our GSMD will fail!

Thank you for allowing me to speak.

I yield back to our Governor General, George Garmany.

*- Michael C. Keleher*

# 2020 Special Congress Meeting

## *Saturday, September 26th, 2020, 2:00 p.m. EDT*
## *A Worldwide Online Business Session*

On 20 June 2020, during a special online meeting, the General Board of Assistants voted unanimously to convene a Special Congress Meeting on 26 September 2020 to complete the organization's business that would have been conducted during the 42nd Triennial Congress. Admittance to the Zoom meeting will begin at 1:15 p.m.

**The business during this special meeting will be limited to a vote on the proposed By-Law Amendments and the Election of Officers for the 2020-2023 term. Please note that the first meeting of the newly elected Executive Committee will be held as a Zoom Meeting on Sunday, September 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. EDT.**

All other business, including awards, will be deferred to the 2021 GBOA Meeting. Reports will be filed and published in the *Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* and/or on the GSMD website.

Due to the spike in Coronavirus cases in recent weeks, with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts still under emergency orders, the Special Congress Meeting will be an online meeting. The emergency order under Massachusetts law, permits non-profits the opportunity to conduct electronic meetings, if said meeting is within 60 days of the time of the emergency, pursuant to Section 16 of Chapter 53 of the Massachusetts Acts of 2020.

The online Special Congress meeting will be conducted using Zoom. In the past few months, in addition to the Special GBOA meeting in June, we have held several educational Zoom forums to help our officers become familiar with this online form of meeting.

A few days before the scheduled meeting, Secretary General Hurt will send out the agenda and other materials to prepare you for the meeting.

- **Who Should Attend?** All GBOA Officers, Society Governors, Nominators and Nominees for election should plan to attend this meeting. We will use the officer list from the June GBOA Special Meeting as the attendance list. Note that these attendees will total at least 215 officers, which will be challenging. We ask that only one officer be designated as the speaker for each Member Society.

  Based on the December 31, 2019 Membership Count the number of delegates is 643. While this large number of delegates may work with an in-person regular Congress meeting, the number is simply too high to effectively hold an electronic Special Congress Meeting. (See Method of Caucus.)

  To allow the meeting to run more efficiently, all participants will be muted, and only the designated speaker from each Member Society will be permitted (unmuted) to speak for their Society. Additional Member Society officers or delegates may attend through the caucus method provided by their Member Society. (See Method of Caucus.)

While great care is being taken to adapt as many of our meeting practices as possible to this online format, there will obviously be certain new protocols set to accommodate the electronic medium:

- **Time Constraints: The meeting will begin at 2:00 EDT but you should plan to connect by 1:15 to ensure you have no issues with your connection.** Please be aware that Member Societies will be participating from all corners of the world. As a result, the meeting will need to be conducted as efficiently as possible. Questions and speaking will be limited to 2 (two) minutes. Caucus time will be limited to 10 (ten) minutes. Only one person will be permitted to speak on behalf of their Member

Society, and will only be permitted to speak one time for each issue. Strict adherence to these rules will be required.

- **Admittance to the Meeting:** Our co-hosts are responsible for admitting officers to the meeting however we must be able to identify you in order to do so. If your electronic device simply refers to you as "iPhone" or "kdm," etc., please take the time to login to your Zoom account ahead of the meeting and change your profile name. Not doing so means that if we do not recognize you, you will not be admitted. Also, if your name is not on our attendance list of officers, you will not be admitted.

- **Speaking at the Meeting:** Speakers will be able to use the "raise hand" icon in Zoom to be recognized by the Chair. Please be patient. When recognized, the Speaker will unmute themselves so they will be audible to all participants. It is imperative that all Speakers speak clearly, and announce themselves by name, Member Society and office before speaking.

- **Tellers:** The following individuals have been appointed by the Governor General to serve as Tellers for this Special Meeting: Assistant Governor General Susan Roser, Secretary General Jane Hurt and Registered Certified Parliamentarian Mary Scout.

- **Voting on Bylaws:** Roll Call voting will be the voting method used for this meeting. Each Member Society will receive one vote for each amendment.

- **Election of Officers:** Electoral Votes will be cast by Roll Call for Officer Elections. Members-at-Large will be elected by a plurality of votes. Those Member Societies choosing to cast anonymous votes for Officer elections **must announce to the Secretary General during Roll Call** that they are casting their vote in **Private Chat** and immediately post their vote in **Chat**, identifying their name, office and Member Society.

- **Nominations from the Floor:** At the proscribed time during the meeting, floor nominations will be made by GBOA Officers who will unmute themselves using the same protocol as described for general speaking. Nominating speeches will be limited to 2 (two) minutes and may only be offered by the Nominator. Nominees will not speak on their own behalf.

- **Electoral Votes:** Due to the timing of the Special Online Meeting the Membership Counts as of December 31, 2019 that have already been approved by the Member Societies will be used to calculate Electoral Votes per Member Society for this Special Meeting.

- **Private Chat** is only to be used for submission of motions to amend, and anonymous voting, as stated below:

  a. **Motion to amend:** If a Member Society wishes to submit an amendment to a motion, their speaker must first use the "raise hand" icon in Zoom to be recognized by the Chair; once recognized they may state the motion, immediately followed by the written submission of said motion (again, with name, Society and office stipulated) in the **Private Chat.** This mirrors a regular face-to-face Congress meeting, where a written motion is submitted to the Secretary General.

  b. **Anonymous Electoral Votes:** Those Member Societies choosing to cast anonymous votes for officer elections must announce to the Secretary General during roll call voting that they are casting their vote in **Private Chat** and immediately submit the written submission of said vote (again, with name, Society and office stipulated). This mirrors a regular face-to-face Congress meeting, where ballots are submitted to the Secretary General.

- **Method of Caucus:** Each Member Society is expected to pre-plan their method for conducting a caucus, should one be required during the course of this Special Meeting. Possible caucus methods include holding an in-person meeting concurrent with the online meeting, creating a conference call facility (through FreeConferenceCall.com or similar product) to reach out to delegates to caucus, or conduct your own Member Society Zoom conference with delegates.

  As previously mentioned, **Caucus time will be limited to 10 (ten) minutes.** It is imperative that Caucuses are conducted efficiently and timely to ensure the meeting is able to be kept on schedule.

**Questions**

Please address any questions you may have about this Special Congress Meeting to Assistant Governor General Susan Roser **rosers@sympatico.ca.**

# Member Societies: Member Count, Electoral Votes

**Voting:** Each Member Society represented casts one vote on each of the bylaw amendment proposals. [Article VIII, Section 4]

**Elections by electoral votes:** Each Member Society represented is entitled to one electoral vote for each two hundred members or any fraction thereof. The number shall be not be more than five electoral votes or less than one electoral vote. [Article V, Section 2, 5]

**For the purposes of the upcoming Special Congress Meeting, the following are the membership numbers as of 31 December 2020, along with the number of delegates and electoral votes for each Member Society who is represented at the Special Congress Meeting. The Australian Society being the only exception as they were not formed until January 2020.**

| Member Society | Members | Electoral Votes |
|---|---|---|
| AL | 271 | 2 |
| AK | 66 | 1 |
| AZ | 406 | 3 |
| AR | 112 | 1 |
| AUS | 21 | 1 |
| CA | 2392 | 5 |
| CAN | 267 | 2 |
| CO | 540 | 3 |
| CT | 1444 | 5 |
| DE | 172 | 1 |
| D.C. | 420 | 3 |
| EUR | 68 | 1 |
| FL | 1570 | 5 |
| GA | 354 | 2 |
| HI | 95 | 1 |
| ID | 143 | 1 |
| IL | 1120 | 5 |
| IN | 445 | 3 |
| IA | 379 | 2 |
| K | 436 | 3 |
| KY | 201 | 2 |
| LA | 169 | 1 |
| ME | 1088 | 5 |
| MD | 424 | 3 |
| MA | 3706 | 5 |
| MI | 858 | 5 |
| MN | 463 | 3 |
| MS | 184 | 1 |
| MO | 304 | 2 |

| Member Society | Members | Electoral Votes |
|---|---|---|
| MT | 123 | 1 |
| NE | 277 | 2 |
| NV | 169 | 1 |
| NH | 593 | 3 |
| NJ | 825 | 5 |
| NM | 185 | 1 |
| NY | 1396 | 5 |
| NC | 574 | 3 |
| ND | 121 | 1 |
| OH | 932 | 5 |
| OK | 275 | 2 |
| OR | 246 | 2 |
| PA | 758 | 4 |
| RI | 490 | 3 |
| SC | 403 | 3 |
| SD | 315 | 2 |
| TN | 233 | 2 |
| TX | 1472 | 5 |
| UT | 294 | 2 |
| VT | 606 | 4 |
| VA | 782 | 4 |
| WA | 459 | 3 |
| WV | 53 | 1 |
| WI | 621 | 4 |
| WY | 104 | 1 |

| Member Society | Members | Electoral Votes |
|---|---|---|
| **TOTAL** | **30,424** | **146** |

# Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

*For Submission to the General Congress in 2020*

(Deletions are ~~struck through~~ and additions are **bolded.**)

Proposed Amendment 1: **ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP**
Section 2: **Preliminary Application** Amend by substitution as follows:

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| **ARTICLE IV:** MEMBERSHIP<br><br>Section 2: Preliminary Application<br><br>Every application for membership in a Member Society shall be made on a preliminary application blank provided by such Society. Such application shall bear the autograph signature of the candidate. | **ARTICLE IV:** MEMBERSHIP<br><br>Section 2: ~~Preliminary~~ Application<br><br>Every application for membership in a Member Society shall be made on an ~~preliminary~~ application blank provided by such Society. ~~Such application shall bear the autograph signature of the candidate.~~ | **ARTICLE IV:** MEMBERSHIP<br><br>Section 2: Application<br><br>Every application for membership in a Member Society shall be made on an application blank provided by such Society. |

**Proposed by:** The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut
**Rationale:** To allow the Office of the Historian General to accept gift applications and allow for future applications electronically.

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Proposed Amendment 2: **ARTICLE XII: FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY**
Section 4: **Lineage Assessment** Amend by striking and inserting as follows:

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, the sum of seventy-five dollars ($75.00) with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, which is submitted to the Historian General's office for examination, effective January 1, 2015. | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, the sum of ~~seventy-five dollars ($75.00)~~ **one hundred twenty-five dollars ($125.00)** with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, which is submitted to the Historian General's office for examination, effective January 1, ~~2015~~ **2021.** | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, the sum of one hundred twenty-five dollars ($125.00) with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, which is submitted to the Historian General's office for examination, effective January 1, 2021. |

**Proposed by:** Member Societies – Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas and Massachusetts
**Rationale:** To adjust the fee for each lineage application and supplemental line of descen. At present GSMD loses an average of $50.00 per application.

Proposed Amendment 3: **ARTICLE XII: FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY**
Section 2: **Annual Assessment** Amend by substitution as follows:

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: **Annual Assessment**<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of fifteen dollars ($15.00) effective for the calendar year 2016, based on its previous membership as of December 31st of the previous year, but there shall not be included in such membership, in computing such assessment, any member who has been excused by his or her Member Society from paying the annual dues on account of his or her being actively engaged in the armed forces of his or her country of allegiance, and no other assessment shall be levied except at a regular session of the General Congress and by a two thirds vote of all the Member Societies represented and voting at that session of the General Society, such vote being taken by Member Society. | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: **Annual Assessment**<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of ~~fifteen dollars ($15.00)~~ thirty-five dollars ($35.00) effective for the calendar year ~~2016~~ **2021,** based on its previous membership as of December 31st of the previous year, exclusive of life members as certified to the General Society as of December 31, 2019. With reference to life members, each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of twenty dollars, ($20.00) effective for the calendar year 2021, twenty-five dollars ($25.00) effective for the calendar year 2022, thirty dollars ($30.00) effective for the calendar year 2023, and beginning with the calendar year 2024 the fee will be equivalent to the annual assessment amount. Life members shall be certified to the General Society by each Member Society annually as of December 31, however, in no case will a Member Society's life members exceed its certified life membership as of December 31, 2019. ~~but t~~There shall not be included in the computation of any Member Society assessment, ~~such membership, in computing such assessment,~~ any member who has been excused by his or her Member Society from paying the annual dues on account of his or her being actively engaged in the armed forces of his or her country of allegiance, and no other assessment shall be levied except at a regular session of the General Congress and by a two thirds vote of all the Member Societies represented and voting at that session of the General Society, such vote being taken by Member Society. | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: **Annual Assessment**<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of thirty-five dollars ($35.00) effective for the calendar year 2021, based on its previous membership as of December 31st of the previous year, exclusive of life members as certified to the General Society as of December 31, 2019. With reference to life members, each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of twenty dollars, ($20.00) effective for the calendar year 2021, twenty-five dollars ($25.00) effective for the calendar year 2022, thirty dollars ($30.00) effective for the calendar year 2023, and beginning with the calendar year 2024 the fee will be equivalent to the annual assessment amount. Life members shall be certified to the General Society by each Member Society annually as of December 31, however, in no case will a Member Society's life members exceed its certified life membership as of December 31, 2019. There shall not be included in the computation of any Member Society assessment, any member who has been excused by his or her Member Society from paying the annual dues on account of his or her being actively engaged in the armed forces of his or her country of allegiance, and no other assessment shall be levied except at a regular session of the General Congress and by a two thirds vote of all the Member Societies represented and voting at that session of the General Society, such vote being taken by Member Society. |

**Proposed by:** Member Societies – Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas and Massachusetts
**Rationale:** To increase the per capita annual assessment without excessively penalizing Member Societies with a large number of Life Members, giving them the opportunity to modify their programs.

Proposed Amendment 4: **ARTICLE XII. FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY**
Section 4: **Lineage Assessment** Amend by substitution as follows:

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, the sum of seventy-five dollars ($75.00) with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, which is submitted to the Historian General's office for examination, effective January 1, 2015. | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, a lineage assessment determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Board of Assistants or the General Congress, with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, submitted to the Historian General's office for examination. The lineage assessment will be effective January 1st of the year following adoption. | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 4: Lineage Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, a lineage assessment determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Board of Assistants or the General Congress, with each original lineage paper and each supplemental line of descent, submitted to the Historian General's office for examination. The lineage assessment will be effective January 1st of the year following adoption. |

**Proposed by:** 2018 General Board of Assistants
**Rationale:** To remove the dollar amount to allow the General Board of Assistants or General Congress to consider, adopt and enact the amount based on the annual needs of the Society.

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Proposed Amendment 5: **ARTICLE XII. FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY**
Section 2: **Annual Assessment** Amend by substitution as follows:

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: Annual Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st in each year, a per capita assessment of fifteen dollars ($15.00) effective for the calendar year 2016, based on its previous membership as of December 31st of the previous year, but there shall not be included in such membership, in computing such assessment, any member who has been excused by his or her Member Society from paying the annual dues on account of his or her being actively engaged in the armed forces of his or her country of allegiance, and no other assessment | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: Annual Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st each year, a per capita assessment based on the Member Society membership count as of December 31st of the previous year. The per capita assessment amount to be determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Board of Assistants or General Congress. Any member who has been excused by the Members Society from paying dues while actively engaged in the armed forces of their country of allegiance will be excluded from the per capita | **ARTICLE XII:** FEES AND REPORTS REQUIRED OF A MEMBER SOCIETY<br><br>Section 2: Annual Assessment<br><br>Each Member Society shall pay to the General Society, not later than April 1st each year, a per capita assessment based on the Member Society membership count as of December 31st of the previous year. The per capita assessment amount to be determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Board of Assistants or General Congress. Any member who has been excused by the Members Society from paying dues while actively engaged in the armed forces of their country of allegiance will be excluded from the per capita |

| Current Wording | Proposed Amendment | If Adopted, Will Read |
|---|---|---|
| shall be levied except at a regular session of the General Congress and by a two thirds vote of all the Member Societies represented and voting at that session of the General Society, such vote being taken by Member Society. | assessment with a request for exclusion from the Member Society received by the General Society no later than December 31st of the year assessed. No other assessment shall be levied except by a two thirds vote of all Member Societies represented and voting at a General Board of Assistants meeting or Congress. | assessment with a request for exclusion from the Member Society received by the General Society no later than December 31st of the year assessed. No other assessment shall be levied except by a two thirds vote of all Member Societies represented and voting at a General Board of Assistants meeting or Congress. |

**Proposed by:** 2018 General Board of Assistants
**Rationale:** To remove the dollar amount to allow the General Board of Assistants or General Congress to consider, adopt and enact the amount based on the annual needs of the Society.

The Arizona Society has informed us that the word "General" was omitted before "Congress" in the last sentence of Proposal # 5 and that will be corrected as a conforming change.

# GSMD Nominating Committee Report

## *General Officers for 2020 – 2023*

The GSMD Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend to the General Congress the following members for nomination as General Officers to serve for the term 2020 to 2023. Please note that Counsellor General Richard Standish Gilmore, Esq. removed his name from nomination for the office of Governor General. The nominating committee has nominated Secretary General Jane E. Hurt for Governor General. These elections will be held at the Special 2020 Congress to be held via Zoom on 26 September 2020.

### *Governor General*
### Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt, Kansas Society

Jane is currently completing a three-year term as Secretary General of the General Society. A member of the Kansas Society, she has served her Society as Governor, Historian and Webmaster. She has served GSMD as DGG and AG representing Kansas, as well as being a member of the Personnel Committee, 2020 Meetings & Events Chairman, Awards, Bylaws Committees, and the 1620 Club.

As the Kansas Governor, Jane's Governor's Project was to coordinate the installation of a new website, transfer the membership management database online and to implement a system for online payment of dues renewals, donations and meeting reservations. She also directed the process of digitizing 100 years of Kansas applications and supplementals.

An experienced administrator and leader, Jane's business career included various management positions for an apparel manufacturer until she retired as Director of Operations. Since her retirement she became a licensed realtor in Kansas City serving both Kansas and Missouri, and has been voted BEST in SERVICE and overall client satisfaction for the past ten years.

Jane is proud to be a member of a number of hereditary societies and has served as State Treasurer and Chapter Regent of the Kansas Daughters of the American Revolution; State Regent of the Kansas Daughters of the American Colonists; State President of the Kansas Colonial Dames of the XVII Century; and is a life member of the Jamestowne Society. She is pleased to have proven her Pilgrim descent from William White, Susanna White, Peregrine White, Francis Cooke, John Cooke and Richard Warren of the *Mayflower*. Jane has proven to be an exceptional Secretary General, and we are pleased to recommend her for election to the office of Governor General.

## *Assistant Governor General*
## Donald T. Studley, CPA
### Connecticut Society

Don has served two terms as Treasurer General (2011-2017) and is currently a Member-at-Large (2017-2020) on the Executive Committee. He has been a member of the Connecticut Mayflower Society since 1991 and has served the Connecticut Society as Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistant and Assistant General. He holds an AB degree from Holy Cross and an MBA from Dartmouth. He has been a certified public accountant for more than 45 years and presently is a partner in the firm of Nanavaty, Davenport, Studley & White, LLP. in Newtown, Connecticut. His firm specializes in auditing and accounting for not-for-profit and governmental organizations. Don started his professional career as a tax manager for the international accounting firm of Price Waterhouse & Co. Don is a former member of the adjunct accounting faculty of the University of Bridgeport and is the retired chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Union Savings Bank in Danbury, Connecticut. He has been deeply involved in civic and charitable organizations in the Newtown and Danbury, Connecticut area for many years. He has served as chairman of Newtown's Legislative Council, has been a lay trustee of his church and has assumed a leadership position in many other organizations. Additionally, he is the founding president of the Heritage Preservation Trust of Newtown which he helped to establish in order to renovate and preserve Newtown's historic Meeting House. His financial background and his experience with other not-for-profit organizations have been an invaluable asset to the Executive Committee over the past nine years. He looks forward to continuing his service to the Society, including his current term as Trustee and Treasurer of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Charitable Trust.

## *Secretary General*
## Meg Averett
### North Carolina Society

Meg Averett became a member of the North Carolina Society in 2016. She serves as Corresponding Secretary for the North Carolina Society and as Governor of the Central Colony. Meg is also a member of the GSMD Meetings and Events Committee, Scholarship Committee, and the 1620 Club. Her *Mayflower* ancestor is William Bradford.

Meg received a BA in Religion from Meredith College and later earned a Master in Education from there as well. She began her career as an elementary teacher later becoming a literacy coach at the district level, mentoring beginning and veteran teachers. Meg was one of the first teachers in NC to earn her National Board Certification.

A member of several hereditary societies, Meg has served as secretary and committee chair for her chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the NC Jamestown Society among others. In the community, Meg volunteers with the Raleigh Host Lions Club. She is an advocate for mental health and health care reform in North Carolina. We are pleased to recommend Meg as Secretary General.

## *Treasurer General*
## Elizabeth "Liz" W. Gaudreau, CPA
### Colorado Society

"Liz" is completing a three-year term as Treasurer General and has been an asset to the General Society. She became a member of the Colorado Society in 2007 and quickly became active in the Society's financial committee work. She converted the manual financial records to computer records using Quicken, converted it to Quickbooks and created comparison reports for transparency to members. In 2011 she was elected Treasurer of the Colorado Society and still assists the Colorado Society as Assistant Treasurer. She computerized the Colorado membership list in an Excel database and re-established the Society as a non-profit organization.

Liz received a BS in Accounting from Rutgers University in 1991 and earned her CPA license in 1998. She has used her skills in various corporate positions and is currently a partner at Tamey Meziere Clements CPA LLC.

Liz is a past DAR Chapter Regent and is pleased to have actively served in other hereditary societies in financial positions such as Treasurer and Auditor for the Colorado Society of the DAR, Auditor for the Colorado Daughters of the War of 1812, and the Colonial Dames of the 17th Century among others. Her considerable experience will continue to be an asset to the GSMD and we recommend Liz for election for a second term as to Treasurer General.

## *Historian General*
## Marjorie K. Hurtuk
### Connecticut Society

"Midge" is currently serving her second term as Historian General (2014-2020). She has been interested in genealogy all of her life. Over twenty years ago she began researching her family *Mayflower* ancestry and has proved six lines to *Mayflower* passengers. She became the Connecticut Society Historian twenty years ago. During that time, she worked closely with the Historians General from Caroline Kardell to Paul Bumpus with over a thousand new members approved. She has been a member of many genealogical societies and groups for many years and has served on the Boards of the Connecticut Professional Genealogical Council and the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. She is also

a researching volunteer for the Connecticut Historical Society answering genealogical inquiries. For the past eleven years "Midge" has been the Connecticut Genealogist for the National Society of Colonial Dames of America and most recently has worked with Susan Roser as a mentor for those Member Society historians that are less experienced in proving *Mayflower* genealogy.

Midge achieved a BA in History and an MBA in Finance. She worked in real estate investment and managed multi-million-dollar portfolios of commercial real estate for insurance company interests and developed skills in management and problem solving. Midge has been a volunteer for organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Foodshare. She has also mentored teenage mothers to keep them in school and has served as a church deaconite. She has successfully served as our first non-resident Historian General in many years and we are pleased to recommend her for re-election to the office of Historian General.

## *Counsellor General*
### Lisa Pennington, Esq.
### Texas Society

Lisa has practiced commercial and employment litigation for 35 years before retiring in 2018. She received a B.A., Magna Cum Laude, and J.D., Order of the Barristers, from the University of Texas. She was Managing Partner of the Houston office of Baker Hostetler for 18 years, where she was listed in Best Lawyers in America.

She was elected an Executive Committee Member-at-Large (2017-2020) and was appointed as a Trustee to the National Memorial Mayflower Meetinghouse. During this time, she has prepared quarterly Member-at-Large updates and given speeches to several Member Societies and historical organizations about the Pilgrims. In addition to assisting the Executive Director on employment law matters, she has acted as GSMD's representative defending a lawsuit which had been filed against GSMD, obtaining a judgment dismissing the case

In 2019, Lisa initiated a series of monthly genealogy lectures at the GSMD Mayflower House which were widely attended by the public. The lectures have been recorded and will be posted on the website for members. She is planning the 2020 schedule of lectures which will occur once a month from May to October 2020. With her vast legal experience, the committee is pleased to nominate Lisa for Counsellor General.

## *Elder General*
### Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Pike
### New York Society

Rev. Pike is the current Governor of the New York Society. He attended the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University and was ordained an Episcopal priest in 1963, after which he received a Doctor of Divinity degree. His first parish was at St. Mark's in the Bowery of Manhattan and served there until 1965 when he was called to St. Andrew church in Yonkers. In 1971 he was called to Calvary Church in New York City. In 1975 three historic churches (Calvary, Holy Communion and St. George's) merged into one parish as Calvary/St. George's Church/ with Rev. Pike as the Rector. He received a Doctorate of Ministry from New York Theological Seminary in 1977 and continued to serve as Rector of Calvary/St. George's until 2008 when he became Rector Emeritus of the Parish of Calvary/St. George's.

Rev. Pike has served in leadership positions for the Episcopal Diocese of New York and the National Church. He continues to live in New York City and is still active in the community. The Nominating Committee believes his considerable experience will benefit the General Society and we recommend him for election as Elder General.

## *Captain General*
### Carter Wiese
### South Dakota Society

Carter joined the South Dakota Mayflower Society in 2002 and has served as Deputy Governor General since 2003. He joined the US Navy in 1961 and served as Hospital Corpsman stationed at US Naval Research Center at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland researching Spinal Meningitis. His discharge in 1965 as an HM2 was followed by two years in the Naval Reserves. A degree in Mortuary Science led to opening the Clements-Wiese Funeral Homes until he retired in 2002. He served on the South Dakota State Board of Funeral Service for over 20 years.

Carter is active in the community, a member of the Congregational United Church of Christ, Masonic Lodge, Consistory, Shrine & Life member of American Legion, and a member of the Armour Star Ham Players Theatre Group for 25 years. He is a board member of Carnegie Library, President of Pleasant Ridge Cemetery Association and past President of the Armour Community Development Corp.

Carter and wife Sharon are active members of the Mayflower Society and charter members of the 1620 Club. The couple were honored by Governor General George Garmany in 2019 with the Governor General's Distinguished Service Award. Carter and Sharon have been vital members in their own Society, long-term participants in the activities and events of the General

Society, and friends to everyone they have met. We were particularly thankful when, few years ago, carried out a complete inventory of the contents of the Mayflower House. The nominating committee is confident that Carter is an excellent choice for the next Captain General.

### *Surgeon General*
### George J. Hill, M.D., D.Litt.
### New Jersey Society

George is an active member of many hereditary societies and is a Past Governor of the New Jersey Society. He is a fifth generation Iowan, the son of a small-town banker and a school teacher. Scholarships allowed him to graduate from Yale University and Harvard Medical School. He was trained as a surgeon at the current Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. He began a career in academic surgery and became a professor at the University of Colorado, Washington University in St. Louis, Marshall University in West Virginia and was the American Cancer Society Professor of Clinical Oncology at the New Jersey Medical School in Newark. He is currently Professor of Surgery Emeritus at Rutgers University. George is a retired Captain in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps, having served in four wars.

After he retired from the practice of surgery, he continued his work as a physician and historian of medicine by earning a Master's degree in history from Rutgers University in 1999 and a D.Litt. from Drew University in 2005. He has written more than a dozen books, six are subjects of family history and genealogy, published by Heritage Books. His special interest in the history of medicine in the seventeenth century was inspired by the career of his 8th great-grandfather Dr. Matthew Fuller, surgeon general of Massachusetts during King Philip's War, and a son of the Pilgrims Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fuller.

George is an excellent speaker and plans to continue his research. The committee believes he will be an excellent addition to the General Society officers and recommend his election as Surgeon General.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present these well qualified Mayflower Society Members for your consideration and election to General Office.

I hereby certify that these results are true and correct and comply with the GSMD Constitution and Bylaws, and the advice of Mary Scout, our independent Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

### Nominating Committee Members

FGG Bruce C. MacGunnigle, Chair

FGG Mildred Ramos, VA, DC

FGG Judith H. Swan, CA, CN, EU

FGG Lea Sinclair Filson, LA, EU, MA

F-AGG Donald W. West, IL

F-AGG Harry P. Folger 3rd NJ, EU

DGG Reynolds Cushing, FL

DGG Charles M. Johnson, MS

DGG Lorraine A. Link, MN

DGG Marcia Maloney, CA

FMAL Virginia Mucciaccio, MA

FMAL Benjamin Proctor, Jr., MD

## GSMD LEGAL UPDATE

In 2018, Charles Morgan filed a lawsuit purporting to represent GSMD and its members against three officers alleging numerous claims. The Plymouth Superior Court held that "Morgan has failed to set forth any factual or legal authority" to bring his action and dismissed all of Morgan's claims. The judge entered a Final Judgement in favor of GSMD and its officers in August, 2019. Morgan appealed. On March 16, 2020, members of the Executive Committee engaged in a mediation with Morgan and settled the case. The appeal was dismissed on May 12, 2020, but the Final Judgment remains in full force and effect. Due in part to the concerns of Charles Morgan, GSMD retained the firm of Goodwin Procter as corporate counsel, to seek guidance on amending its Charter and Bylaws in the future.

**Counsellor General Richard S. Gilmore, Esq.**
**Member-at-Large Lisa H. Pennington, Esq.**

# *Mayflower II* Homecoming

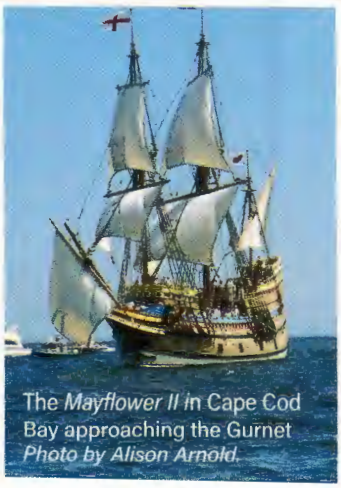
The *Mayflower II* replica ship returned to her home port of Plymouth, Massachusetts on August 10, 2020, following a multi-year, multi-million-dollar restoration at Mystic Seaport in Connecticut. GSMD was thrilled to welcome her home!

These photos show the ship's voyage from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Bourne, Mass., through the Cape Cod Canal, and finally arriving in Plymouth Harbor to waiting crowds along the waterfront.

The view from the Mayflower Society House cupola as the *Mayflower II* approaches her berth.

The ship passing through the Cape Cod Canal.

Docking in Plymouth.



The *Mayflower II* in Cape Cod Bay approaching the Gurnet *Photo by Alison Arnold.*

The ship makes her way through Buzzards Bay, Mass.

Before departing for Plymouth, the *Mayflower II* spent a weekend docked at the Mass. Maritime Academy in Bourne *Photo by Kathryn Carveiro.*

# Commemorating the 2020 Anniversary

*by Andrew Raybold Whipple*

What a difference a year makes! Many of us began 2020 with high hopes of commemorating the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the *Mayflower* with great fanfare. We were filled with optimism and anticipation as we eagerly looked forward to attending a variety of Pilgrim-themed events throughout the year. Life, however, has a way of quickly changing.

Perhaps you marked the beginning of the commemorations by attending the launching of the *Mayflower II* in Mystic, Connecticut in September of 2019? A few months later, you watched excitedly as our Mayflower float made its debut in the New Year's Day Tournament of Roses Parade. As February unfolded, you looked forward with keen enthusiasm to other events planned for 2020! Then, in March, the reality of COVID-19 arrived; our hearts sank and our plans changed.

How were we going to continue commemorating this year under the current circumstances? At this point, Pilgrim perseverance, ingenuity and creativity kicked in! Making do in difficult circumstances was familiar to our Pilgrim forebears and it would need to become familiar to us, as well.

As the Pilgrims voyaged across the Atlantic, a main timber in the *Mayflower* cracked and our ancestors fretted over what to do. They ultimately employed a novel solution. Similarly, as we navigated through this new coronavirus reality, we were initially concerned. In the end, however, we confidently employed unconventional solutions.

Perhaps we were inspired by the words of William Bradford, "All great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and both must be enterprised and overcome with answerable courage." Undeterred, we would answer our trials with courage and perseverance.

We may have heard of the cancellation of the 2020 Commemoration Opening Ceremony, scheduled for April 24, 2020, but we knew there were other ways to kick off our special year.

Technology would be the first tool employed as the calamity of 2020 unfolded. *Mayflower 2020* Commemoration leadership and other event organizers looked to technology, designed for business and personal meetings, to help craft a new way of honoring the 400th year anniversary. Our watch words became "virtual programming," "Facebook Live," and "Zoom"! The following narrative highlights a few events adapted to meet the needs of the times.

First, we needed to adjust our travel plans. Yes, many of us had plans to travel to England and the Netherlands during 2020 to visit the hometowns and other associated locations of our Pilgrim ancestors. Initially, we were eager to become "reverse Pilgrims" but circumstances invited us to become "virtual Pilgrims."

One wonderful and early example of these virtual events was a tour offered by the Leiden 400 organization. This virtual tour of Leiden was co-hosted by the executive director of *Leiden 400*, Michaël Roumen, and the tour project manager, Marlijn Kok.

Michaël and Marlijn virtually guided viewers through the streets and byways of Leiden stopping along the way to introduce participants to important Pilgrim-related sites. The Pilgrims, you will remember, spent 12 important years in Leiden.

The program, live-streamed via YouTube, Facebook and other virtual mediums, reached thousands of people throughout the world. During the tour, we virtually visited sites such as Pieterskerk Leiden, William Brewster Alley, the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, and many other venues.

Our hosts remotely welcomed us into their city with such warmth no Pilgrim descendant watching could possibly resist dreaming of visiting Leiden in-person when circumstances allow. The virtual tour, held in May 2020, reminded us our celebrations were not canceled but simply adjusted for the current circumstances.

Another thrilling virtual event, this one hosted by Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut and entitled, "Behind the Scenes with *Mayflower II's* Captain," offered an engaging look at the refurbishing of the *Mayflower II* by Mystic Seaport staff.

Whit Perry regaled over 200 Zoom meeting participants with tales and anecdotes of the Herculean process of refurbishing the *Mayflower II*. With vibrant photographs and a detailed narrative, Whit explained how this multi-year and multi-million dollar project to rebuild the 63-year old vessel unfolded. All who watched surely enjoyed this live virtual presentation.

Next, many *Mayflower* descendants enjoyed a Zoom meeting with Randal Charlton, son of Warwick Charlton, the original builder of the *Mayflower II*.

During this delightful Zoom meeting, Randal discussed his father's passion and shared insights from his recently published book titled, *The Wicked Pilgrim: The True Story of the Englishman Who Gave Mayflower II to America*. The meeting was sponsored by the Alden Kindred of America. (See related article in this edition of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine.)*

Over in the United Kingdom, *Mayflower 400* shifted gears during the COVID-19 pandemic and provided a wide variety of videos and virtual programs celebrating and exploring Pilgrim and *Mayflower* themes. One such virtual event involved a tour of Plymouth, England where the *Mayflower* docked for repairs before departing for America with her 102 passengers and crew. This spirited virtual program highlighted sites connected to the Pilgrims located near the lovely 17th century waterfront of Plymouth.

As the months unfolded many leaders in the various *Mayflower* family groups and the leadership of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) came to the unfortunate conclusion that holding in-person annual meetings and associated events was just too risky in the current situation. The leadership of the GSMD canceled the 42nd Triennial Congress and plans to hold a special online Congress Meeting in September.

Many of the Family Societies, which are partnered with the GSMD, saw fit to adjust their annual meeting styles and some met virtually. In this way, they were able to address the practical business of their groups and to maintain contact with their members. The Alden Kindred of America, The Pilgrim John Howland Society, The Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society, and others all successfully held their annual meetings in a remote fashion this year.

During July in Plymouth, Massachusetts, the Plymouth Antiquarian Society transformed its annual Pilgrim Breakfast celebration into a virtual event. Since 1933, the Society has held a breakfast on the Sunday nearest July 4th at the Harlow Old Fort House in Plymouth, Massachusetts. During this unusual year, members and friends of the Society compiled a series of videos showcasing "a taste of history and tradition" of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

There were many other virtual events held during these last few months. One last program worth mentioning, which certainly helped many to celebrate 2020, is the "Virtual Voyages" series provided by *Mayflower 400 UK*. With these short videos, virtual Pilgrims could make their way to the homes of Brewster and Bradford, travel to Boston, England, better understand the Wampanoag contributions to Pilgrim life, and explore many other Pilgrim-related themes in brief video presentations all from the comfort of their own home. These videos were a wonderful way to highlight this special year.

As we look to the end of 2020 and into 2021, there are still many events to attend. For example, Bridgewater State University is sponsoring an indigenous history conference scheduled for October 29-30, 2020. Or we might participate in the "Illuminate Thanksgiving" activities being held virtually between November 20-25, 2020 with representatives joining the event from all the four involved nations (the Netherlands, the U.K., the U.S.A. and the Wampanoag). Additionally, all are invited to join the GBOA in September 2021 in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Lastly, as COVID-19 concerns lessen, Europe awaits your arrival.

Commemorating the 400th Anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage this past year unfolded quite differently than what we expected. As we enter the fall of 2020 and pause to consider the last few months, all we can say is, "What a year!" We began the year with the high hope of attending many in-person *Mayflower* events, but as the months unfolded we realized this was not meant to be. Undaunted, we adjusted and honored our ancestors a bit differently than expected but it was done with no less enthusiasm and joy. And as we look forward to the future, we do so with grateful and hopeful hearts.

Andrew R. Whipple is a member of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Mayflower Societies. In addition to his John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley roots, he descends from 14 other *Mayflower* passengers. He is a regular contributor to the *MQM*.

# MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

## AUSTRALIA

The newly-incorporated Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants has made some major strides this past summer, despite the ongoing global pandemic. In June, the Society was granted an Australian Business Number (ABN) and became officially recognized by the Office of Fair Trading as a non-profit organization. Also in June, the Society opened an Australian bank account utilizing web-based three branch video conferencing (the first time ever attempted by the WESTPAC Bank based in Brisbane, Queensland, AU).

Finally, in its greatest leap forward, the Australian Society launched its new website **mayflowersociety.org.au** in June, just six months after its Charter. The website project was the culmination of efforts and assistance by Member-at-Large Lisa Pennington, who introduced the Australian Society to Kimberly Florsheim, Governor and webmaster for the Texas High Plains Colony (and the AU Society's newest dual member!). She recommended Wix.com templates, along with web designer Sue McLean and her husband, Keith D. Price. The Society utilized a small group of its members to help choose colors, format and information, so it became a group-completed effort in less than two months.

Next on the horizon: the Australian Society newsletter, *The Southern Compass*, with Sue volunteering as Editor.

The help and assistance the Society continues to receive from Executive Committee officers and GSMD staff in Plymouth has been nothing less than incredible. The AU Society would particularly like to thank Membership Services Manager Emily Brockway and Mayflower Lineage Match Specialist/ Librarian Erin Gillett for their continued correspondence and assistance with research and member applications. With new memberships and dual memberships, the Society continues to grow.

▲ The Australian Society's logo.

▲ Australia Deputy Governor Bill Elliott and his wife Christine with the AU Society's "Certificate of Incorporation" from the Office of Fair Trades in Queensland.

## HAWAI'I

*Aloha e kākou!* On July 5, 2020, the Hawai'i Mayflower 'Ohana made its own little bit of history; holding its annual meeting, albeit a bit late, via Zoom. And it was terrific! Eighteen members and potential members attended from the islands of O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island, as well as Australia and Texas.

It was wonderful to see existing members, and also meet new and potential members. The Society held its business meeting and was presented the Hawai'i State Governor's Proclamation *In Recognition of the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of the Mayflower and the Signing of the Mayflower Compact.*

▲ Hawai'i members and prospective members embrace new technology for conducting meetings.

Governor Lynda Hylander shared a PowerPoint presentation that she had crafted, taking everyone on a virtual tour of Plimoth and the Pilgrims. *Mahalo nui* to all for testing the waters with Zoom; with members so spread out, the Society might just incorporate this into every meeting! Please everyone, stay safe and healthy.

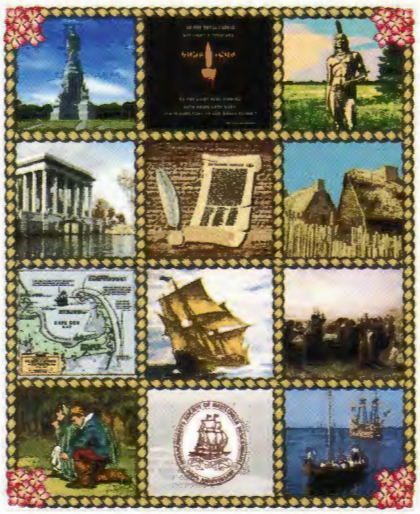
▲ Hawai'i Mayflower Society Governor, Lynda J Hylander, with the special proclamation from Hawai'i State Governor David Ige.

## MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants worked with a company on Cape Cod to produce a beautiful throw blanket in commemoration of the 400-year anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims. Each square celebrates an important Pilgrim event, person, scene or site of historical significance.

The 50"x60" throw is 100% poly and machine washable; the front is velvet-like while the back feels like Sherpa. The price is $85 to pick up at the Hingham MSMD office (call 781-875-3194 to arrange a time) or at a site on Cape Cod (call 781-856-5671), or $100 to ship anywhere within the continental United States.

All proceeds from the sale will benefit the MSMD Scholarship Fund. Please contact MSMD Treasurer Edith Bridges at 781-856-5671 for an order form.



▲ 400th anniversary throw blanket to benefit the MSMD Scholarship Fund.

## NEVADA

Cabernet and Chardonnay wine from a local winery, with specially-designed commemorative labels incorporating a state motif of mountains and bighorn sheep along with GSMD's 400th anniversary logo, were featured at the October 19, 2019 luncheon of the Las Vegas Colony/Nevada Society of Mayflower Descendants.

◀ Commemorative silver coins produced by the Nevada Society of Mayflower Descendants.

During this biannual event, members and guests were treated to a world premiere video about the upcoming film *Mayflower 400*. Produced by United Kingdom film director Adrian Moss of Focus Multimedia Communications, this feature reveals the Pilgrim backstory leading up to the *Mayflower* voyage. Find out more at **www.mayflower-400.com.** Moss looks forward to traveling to the United States and has promised to present in person at an upcoming Las Vegas Colony event.

The Nevada Society of Mayflower Descendants' decorative commemorative silver coins, featuring wild horses and mining tools among rugged mountains, have also proven quite popular among its members.

▲ Las Vegas committee members and guests from left to right: Michael Pavesi, Norm Anderson, Mary Gafford (former Lt. Governor), Phyllis Anderson, Yvonne Davis (Lt. Governor), Richard Dalton (Historian) and Rod Davis.

## NEW YORK

Every year, the New York Mayflower Society sends an award – made possible by the family of Margaret King Moore – to a high school senior who submits the best essay on a topic related to the *Mayflower*. This year's award winner is Elena Tzouganatos, a senior at Goshen High School and member of the school's National Honor Society, Academic Team and Track Team. Elena is attending SUNY New Paltz this fall, where she plans to study forensic psychology. Congratulations, Elena!

*Continued on page 24.*

As we mark the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* landing in Plymouth, the New York Society is especially looking forward to this year's *Mayflower* Ball that will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2020, at the University Club in New York, NY.

This year's "Ball weekend" will also include a festive cocktail party the evening before the Ball on Friday, November 6 at the Colony Club in New York. The cocktail party will be by invitation, open to all past debutantes going back to 1959 – the first year the Ball was held – as well as this year's debutantes and their families. If you have a daughter, granddaughter or other family member interested in making her debut at this year's New York Mayflower Society Ball, please contact Robin Weaver, Executive Director at **rweaver@mayflowernewyork.org** for details.

General information about the Ball, including past photos, can be found on the NY Society website: **www.mayflowernewyork.org**.

▲ NY Society scholarship winner Elena Tzouganatos.

## OHIO

▲ Newly-minted Ohio Society member Kat Matson, 98, with her membership certificate.

After 98 years of family life and experiencing journeys through our nation's history of the Great Depression, World War II, the Korean War and countless other events, the last thing Kathryn "Kay" Matson expected was to learn that her 9th great-grandfather, John Howland, arrived in this country aboard the *Mayflower* in 1620.

Thanks to exhaustive efforts by her granddaughter Amy Walts (member of the Buffalo, New York Colony), the last pieces of Kay's genealogy puzzle were discovered, documented and approved, leading to her recent induction ceremony into the Cincinnati Colony of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has turned so many lives upside down, it didn't stop the nursing staff of Chesterwood Village in West Chester, OH from finding a way to bring this special moment into Kay's assisted living apartment – virtually. Officiated by the Cincinnati Colony Lt. Governor Star Vondrell, the celebration was truly unique in that Kay was joined by members of her family from Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Texas and Illinois (Chicago)— all via the benefits of Zoom video call technology.

Although current pandemic restrictions made this event unique, it was noted that the *Mayflower* passengers were no strangers to epidemics and illnesses that took a significant toll during the first few years following their arrival. Even in the midst of our COVID-19 crisis, the Mayflower Society goal and spirit of celebrating the *Mayflower's* history and documenting its direct descendants, remains active and alive for us all to enjoy.

## TEXAS

Cathy Bambenek, the first female member of the GSMD Mayflower Guard, presented the book *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick to her book club. The club votes every year on what they will read and for the 400th anniversary of the landing of the *Mayflower*, Cathy volunteered to facilitate this book. Twenty-four participants were in attendance and discussed Pilgrim heritage.

*Gone to Texas – How Mayflower Descendants Got to Texas* by Judie R. Allen, Kathryn Allen Eisenbarth and James B. Battles, is the first book composed by Texas Mayflower Society members, showcasing descendants' various paths to Texas. Texas Governor Allen and Battles spent countless hours collecting and arranging the stories, while Eisenbarth contributed editing. The book is available at https://www.lulu.com/. Proceeds benefit the Texas Scholarship Fund.

Mayflower Guard member Cathy Bambenek bringing Mayflower pride to her book club.

In other news, Texas Mayflower Society 2020 Committee Co-Chair Sandy Sauers has prepared a written request for a proclamation from Texas Governor Greg Abbott's office. Central Texas Colony obtained proclamations from the mayors of Georgetown and Marble Falls with plans for more mayoral proclamations this year. These events were publicized in the local press. Central Texas Colony has also formed a Costume Committee to provide pattern resources, seamstresses and guidelines for Pilgrim attire. The colony is also assembling *Mayflower* history mini-kits to donate to public libraries in Central Texas. Corpus Christi and High Plains Colonies recently prepared *Mayflower* mini-museum boxes for area schools as part of the 2020 commemoration. Dallas-Fort Worth Colony will donate and dedicate a tree dedication to the Dallas Arboretum.

## MAYFLOWER JUNIORS UPDATE

As reported in the Summer 2020 *MQM*, Texas Juniors 2020 Commemoration Chair Allison Sharer created a website for the Mayflower Juniors, which launched this past Spring. This is the first website for youth in the US and other countries to commemorate the anniversary of the 1620 arrival of the *Mayflower*. The website design helped Allison win the Girl Scouts of America's Gold Award, the organization's highest achievement. Her winning project also included building Pilgrim and Wampanoag games, which her brother Jason designed.

Also on the website: details for how to enter the Mayflower Juniors' essay contest, "Why do YOU think the *Mayflower* Pilgrims are important?" The contest is open to youth ages 8-18 in the US, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Europe. The deadline to submit is November 1, 2020; winners will be notified by November 23.

For more information, visit **www.mayflowerjuniors2020.org.**

Texas Juniors 2020 Commemoration Chair Allison Sharer's Mayflower Juniors website won her the Gold Award from the Girl Scouts of America.

## WASHINGTON

**Happy 100th Birthday, Diantha Steward Willmer!**

Long-time Washington Mayflower Society member, Diantha Stewart Willmer, celebrated her 100th birthday on March 1, 2020. She is a proud descendant of William Bradford and, until recent years, was active in attending Mayflower Society events with her husband of 58 years, Kenneth E. Willmer (1915-1999). The family moved to Seattle with their three children, Sylvia Jewell, Virginia Smith and Wesley Willmer, in the summer of 1960. Diantha continues to live in the same house.

As an alumnus of Seattle Pacific University, Diantha used her education to teach for decades in elementary grades in the Seattle Public Schools. She has been active in Trinity Church (formerly Green Lake Presbyterian Church) and Bible Study Fellowship. She is a past president of the Seattleans and the Swedish Club, Svea Auxiliary Chorus. She has children that are Washington Mayflower Society members, as well as great-grandchildren who are junior members. Happy birthday to Diantha!

Washington Society member Diantha Willmer (bottom, center) celebrates her 100th birthday on March 1, 2020, along with her children Sylvia Jewell, Wesley Willmer and Virginia Smith.

# Sarah and Elizabeth Collier: Making a Mark in Plymouth Colony

*by Peggy M. Baker*

How much autonomy and self-determination could women exercise in 17th century Plymouth? An enduring question, which gains particular significance in 2020 when we commemorate both the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the *Mayflower* and the 100th anniversary of American women gaining the right to vote; however, determining the answer to the question, namely the actual extent of what is referred to in academic circles as "female agency," is surprisingly challenging. The writings of William Bradford and Edward Winslow, as well as the twelve volumes of the *Records of Plymouth Colony*, seem to fully document activities in Plymouth. The men are shown exploring, governing, fighting, serving on juries, surveying roads, et cetera; law-abiding women, however, are seldom to be found.

This situation was not unique to Plymouth. It was due to a doctrine of the time, in force in all English societies, known as "couverture." According to this legal fiction, a husband and wife were one person and that person was the husband. Women were, therefore, subordinate and their legal rights severely restricted.

Research suggests, however, that the role of women and the relationships between men and women in 17th century England, and in the vast majority of colonial Plymouth, whose women were, indeed, English, were more multi-faceted than suggested by that doctrine of couverture. While women were undeniably subordinate to men, the restrictions placed on them were sometimes mitigated if property rights or the financial security of individual families were threatened. A recent study mining the records of the London Consistory Court for significant in-depth information about women of the 17th century is particularly fascinating.

Consistory courts were a "leftover" from the pre-Reformation days when both the English church and the state operated courts. While the Reformation dismantled much of the ecclesiastical framework, this particular form of church court survived. Consistory courts had jurisdiction over conduct and family relationships; their records, therefore, include an extraordinary amount of information about women. These records show that, due to the court's involvement in cases of economic instability, it would sometimes offer women the opportunity to wield control over their family's futures. This opportunity was supported by English family structure in which women, while subject to the domestic authority of their husbands, nevertheless had their own areas of authority within their households, which it behooved their husbands to respect. And as the ones who used and preserved household resources, and so had an important role in the household's economic stability, they were – and were meant to be – partners, although subordinate ones.[1]

Consistory courts were not established in Plymouth, or anywhere in New England. The General Court in Plymouth, which saw one of its function as being an instrument for creating an orderly society, did deal with some domestic issues, but the cases are not frequent and they are usually not reported in great depth. This leaves a large gap in the types of records available. It behooves us, therefore, to keep these English examples in mind when interpreting the records that we do have.

It does remain absolutely true that in both England and in New England, all women held a lower position than men, simply because they were women. What that meant for the individual woman, however, could vary greatly.

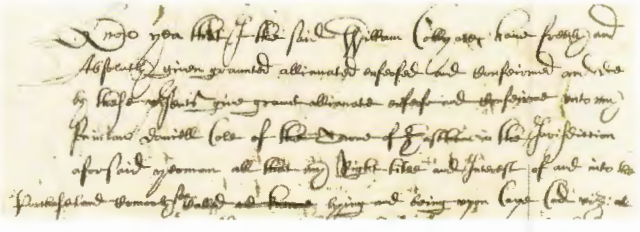
The doctrine of couverture also had one very large and very obvious loophole. Not even the most patriarchal of societies could pretend for long that a man, once dead, could still function as head of a family. A widow was, by her very widowhood, no longer subordinate to a husband; instead, she became head of her own household. Since, by Plymouth Colony law, widows were entitled (at a minimum) to outright possession of one-third of their deceased husband's goods, including livestock, and to a life interest in one-third of his

lands, they were now also responsible for maintaining property, managing accounts and paying taxes.[2] And while some women might have been ill-equipped for their new responsibilities, the large number of women named by their husbands as executors of their wills indicates there were many whose abilities were both recognized and appreciated.

Sarah and Elizabeth Collier, two of the five daughters of William and Jane Collier of London, are among the Plymouth Colony women who were named executors of their husbands' wills. In both instances, the property given them in those wills far exceeded the minimum third. The enterprise shown by these two women in carrying out their responsibilities as widows was truly remarkable, albeit demonstrated in quite different ways.

Sarah, age 17, and Elizabeth, 15, had arrived in New England in May 1633 with their parents, and three sisters – Mary, 21, Rebecca, 18, and Ruth, 5.[3] The family settled in Plymouth Colony, where William, who had been one of the original financial backers of the *Mayflower* voyage, was known and respected. William's subsequent active participation in public affairs, including seventeen terms as a member of the Colony's Board of Assistants, is well-documented.[4]

Each of the Collier girls followed the expected path: marriage and children. Sisters Rebecca and Sarah both married on 15 May 1634, Rebecca to Job Cole and Sarah to Love Brewster. Mary married Thomas Prence on 1 April 1635, Elizabeth married Constant Southworth on 2 November 1637, and Ruth married Daniel Cole before the July 1644 birth of their first child.[5] Ruth was unique among the sisters in not having her marriage recorded; it is, instead, documented through a deed in which her father, William Collier, named Daniel Cole as his son-in-law.[6]



▲ The 1659 deed in which William Collier of Duxbury deeds land on Cape Cod to his son in law Daniel Cole of Eastham, as found in the Plymouth Colony land records 2:2:29-30.

Ruth is not named as the mother of her eight children: they are listed only as "children of Daniel." Upon her death on 15 December 1694, however, Ruth, wife of Daniel Cole, is found in the records of Eastham.[7]

The oldest Collier sister Mary appears twice: in her marriage record and in the birth record of her older daughter. After that, her name is never found again. Sister Rebecca was also named in her marriage record and in only one of the birth records of her children, but she was, in addition, named in her brother-in-law's will, probated 7 January 1638/8, in a deed enacted 13 August 1651 when she consented to her husband's sale of land, and finally in 1698 when her death was reported.[8]

As important as these records are, they convey no sense of the character or personality of Mary, Rebecca or Ruth. The other two Collier sisters, Sarah and Elizabeth, however, manage to break through the wall of near-invisibility that is the usual fate of colonial women. They shine as individuals, albeit briefly, in the records.

After Sarah Collier's 1634 marriage to Love Brewster, she disappeared from the records for over sixteen years. She and Love had four children, but their births were not recorded; we know their names from Love's will. In that will, written 6 October 1650 and probated 4 March 1650/1, Love made small individual bequests to those children, and then gave,

*...unto my beloved wife, Sara Brewster, all the residue of my whole estate both goods and chattles and land at Duxburrow for the bringing up of her and my children during the time of her life.*[9]

The will gave Sarah considerable leeway in dealing with Love's estate, but it did not give her outright ownership of the land with the right to dispose of it through a will of her own. Love also named Sarah his executor. Sarah's first appearance as a widow happened that same year, 1650, when "Sara the late Wife of Love Brewster executrix of his last will and Testament," acknowledged and consented to an earlier land sale made by Love.[10]

Sarah, now a 34-year-old widow with the responsibility of raising four children and managing significant property in the process, did not rush into another marriage. When she did remarry, she seems to have

given it considerable thought. Her brother-in-law, Jonathan Brewster, mentioned the topic when he responded to a letter of Sarah's, writing to her in Duxbury 1 September 1656,

*Loveing and kind sister, I thanke you for youer loveing letter I Received being glad to heare of youer well doeing in youer affliction of widdowhood...*

Sarah had evidently raised the prospect of remarriage, as Jonathan continued,

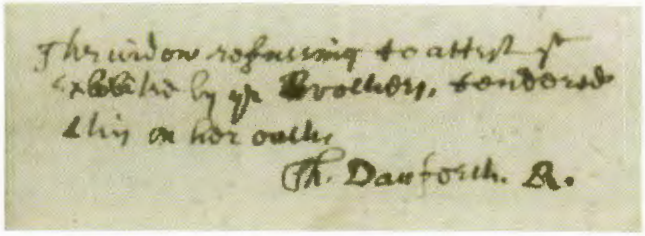
*I would advise you to Marry one whom you could love.*[11]

Fortunately for future historians, in addition to sharing his views on marriage, Jonathan also gave Sarah's daughter his rights to some property he had inherited from his father. The letter, with its marvelous personal details, was only entered into the records because it served as documentation for land ownership.

Sarah did eventually remarry: the man she chose was Richard Parkes, of Cambridge, a widower with three grown children. Although no record of Sarah's second marriage has been found, it is confirmed by a 1669 deed. In 1652, before her remarriage, Sarah had received property from the Colony, when some of the "Purchasers" (adult men residing in the Colony by 1627, along with six of their financial investors) were given additional lands. Among the thirty-four names listed were "Mr Collyare and Sara Brewster," who together received one full share.[12] It is not clear why Sarah was listed with her father when two other widows, Elizabeth Warren and Sarah Jenney, were named in their own right. Perhaps the difference was simply, that neither Warren nor Jenney had a father living in the Colony. When the land appeared again in the 1669 deed, although William Collier was still living, only Sarah was named. That year, Nathaniel, William and Wrestling Brewster of Duxbury sold their share in lands in Dartmouth, "which was ours by donation and gift by our dear Mother Mistris Sarah Brewster alias Mistris Sarah Parkes."[13] By that time, Sarah had once again been widowed. Richard Parks had died between 12 July and 4 August 1665.

In his will, Sarah's second husband, like her first, was generous with his bequest, writing,

*...first, that my Loveing wife shall peaseably Injoy all my houses barnes and Lands that I now Live in duering her naturall Life, with so much of the moveables as shall be Judged nessesary for her Comfort by 2 indefferent men and after her decease to returne the same both houses Lands and moveables to [my] heires...*




▲ In that will, witnessed by Hugh Mason and Thomas Wiswall, Richard named Sarah and his son Thomas Parks co-executors.[14]

Issues arose between Sarah and Thomas almost immediately. An inventory of the estate was taken in October 1665 by Thomas and his two brothers-in-law. Sarah Parks was not happy with that inventory and submitted another inventory, this one taken by Mason and Wiswall, the two witnesses to Richard Parks' will. The two inventories were different in both form and substance. "The Brothers'" four-page inventory lists Richard Parks' possessions in detail; the first nineteen items are Richard's "weareing cloaths" and some forty-nine separate articles of clothing are enumerated with equal attention given to Richard's lands, livestock and other personal possessions. The widow's inventory, in contrast, is a single page and groups items into larger categories such as "his wearing cloths both linnin and woollen." The total value of Richard Parks' goods, according to the widow's inventory, is almost 20% less than that shown in "the Brothers'" inventory. It is not clear which inventory was accepted by the Court.[15]

The note on the bottom of the inventory of Richard Parks' estate submitted by his widow Sarah Parks reads, "The widow refusing to attest to yt [that] exhibited by ye Brothers endorsed this on her oath;" from Middlesex County probate records #16442.

The implementation of Richard Parks' straightforward will also proved less than simple. Son Thomas held up the distribution of his father's goods. A Court held in April 1666 ordered that the estate be disposed according to the will and appointed Mason and Wiswall to divide out a third of Richard's personal possessions for Sarah "as they Judge was the mind of the deceased to let her have the use of." Another administrator was also added to provide a deciding voice, if not a buffer, between Sarah Parks and her stepson Thomas. This decision, however, was not the end of the difficulties. Sometime in October 1666, Sarah Parks submitted a "humble petition" to the Court, "being by the will of her husband executrix and by being put by it hath been put upon many straites and difficulte." She therefore, as "your poor petitioner," made a "humble request" that the Court either see Richard Parks' will performed, "or that your poore petitioner may be provided for some other waies as you in your wisdomes shall think best."

Sarah sweetened her exceedingly self-effacing request by adding a final incentive: "And your petitioner shall pray for you."[16]

Whether it was Sarah's humility and prayers, or the soundness of her case, she was absent from the Court for five years. Then, in December 1671, Sarah Parks brought suit against Thomas, claiming that he was preventing her from cutting firewood from Richard's land. Richard Parks, in his will bequeathing Sarah a life interest in his lands, had included the proviso that, on her death, she return the lands to his heirs "in as good state as she received them." Perhaps foreseeing future difficulties, he added a final statement to his will to explain that,

*I do only intend that she shall not make any strip or waste of wood but what is necessary for fires or building fencing for the better accommodating of the premises.*

The testimony of Sarah's witnesses was clear. Thomas had indeed hindered Sarah from cutting wood to the extent of taking the axe away from one of her men, and the wood was intended specifically for her fire. Ultimately, however, the decision of the court held on 19 December 1671, was not on the merits of the case, but on a technicality. Although Thomas admitted in Court that Sarah had a right to the wood by virtue of his father's will, the jury found that the case "was not actionable in this Court," since the damages claimed by the plaintiff [Sarah] did not amount to forty shillings.[17]

While not a legal one, this victory may well have seemed like moral vindication. Sarah was, at any rate, not discouraged from taking legal action when, back in Plymouth Colony in 1679, her perceived rights were once again infringed upon. The origins of this particular dispute, which involved Brewster lands in Duxbury, are laid out in the Plymouth Colony Records.

William Brewster died intestate in 1644, leaving sons Jonathan and Love. Following the funeral, the two discussed the division of their father's estate. Jonathan, as the older brother, was legally entitled to a great share. For his part, Love claimed that, due to an unwritten agreement made with his father at the time of Love's marriage to Sarah, he was entitled not only to a half part of his father's land but also to his entire house. The dispute was settled amicably when a group of William Brewster's friends, who had been asked to act as arbiters had "awarded the said dwelling house to the said Love and Sarah his wife and their heires together wth half the said Estate of Lands goods and chattells..." They then determined how the lands should be divided between Jonathan and Love.[18]

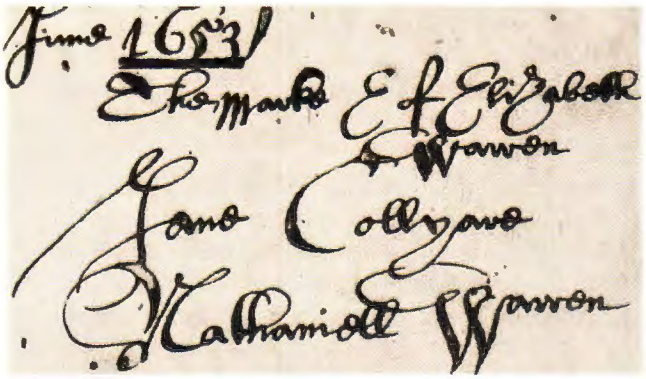
Thirty years of peace and harmony ensued. Controversy arose, however, after a portion of Jonathan Brewster's lands came into the possession of William Paybody of Duxbury. He appeared in court 3 July 1679 complaining of a difference of opinion between "Mistris Sarah Parkes, and her son, Willam Brewster, and himselfe," concerning land boundaries. In turn, Sarah petitioned the Court, asking that the boundaries adhere to the settlement made so many years ago between Jonathan and Love Brewster when the land had been surveyed, laid out and divided. No one, however, could find the survey or a good description of the boundaries set. The Court, therefore, ordered the entire piece of land to be surveyed again – at the two petitioners' expense – and divided as it had been originally. And, it was to be finished by the October court.[19]

Nothing was reported in that October 1679 Court, but it quickly became clear that the relationship between the two neighbors had deteriorated significantly. On 2 March 1679/80, William Paybody was back in Court, making a formal complaint giving us a vivid picture of just what action Sarah had taken,

*...against Mistris Sarah Parke, of Duxburrow, aforesaid, in an action of trespass, to the damage of forty pound sterling...for that the said Sarah Parke, somtime in October last, did pull up and deface the bound markes of the said Paybodyes land, and made claime to the said land.*

The jury declared it was incapable of reaching a decision until it had a legal ruling on Sarah's counterclaim that the suit should be dismissed. Nothing further is heard.[20]

Sarah's involvement in this lawsuit, based on a premarital agreement, is reminiscent of an earlier notorious lawsuit in which her mother, Jane Collier, had been involved. In 1653, Nathaniel Warren sued his mother Elizabeth, regarding a "Difference" about




▲ The signature of Jane Collier, between the mark of Elizabeth Warren and the signature of Nathaniel Warren, in their 1653 lawsuit, as found in the Plymouth Colony land records 2:1:73.

certain lands that Nathaniel believed were rightfully his. Jane Collier not only submitted a petition "in the behalfe of her grandchild Sara the wife of the said Nathaniell Warren," she signed on as a partner in Nathaniel's suit.[21] And she did, literally, sign, instead of using a mark. Jane's signature indicates that she had been well educated. While reformist women were expected to be able to read their Bibles, significantly fewer could write. (Reading and writing were separate abilities, not necessarily linked in the 17th century.)[22]

The lawsuit raises three questions. The first question is found in the record of Nathaniel Warren's 19 November 1645 marriage where he names his bride Sarah Walker.[23] But...none of the five Collier daughters had married a man with that surname. How, then, did Jane become the grandmother of a Sarah Walker? The most likely scenario is that, at the time of her marriage to William Collier at St. Olave Church in Southwark on 16 May 1611, Jane Clarke had been a widow with a young daughter. The premise, therefore, is that Jane's anonymous Clarke daughter married a Mr. Walker and had a daughter Sarah. The St. Olave parish register does, in fact, show that a Sarah Walker, daughter of William, was baptized there 10 November 1622.[24]

The second question is why Jane Collier was involved in Nathaniel Warren's lawsuit at all. Her granddaughter Sarah Warren was of full age and, as far as we can tell, not incapacitated or constitutionally feeble, so why was grandmother Jane submitting a petition on her behalf? Fortunately, the details of the case, such as they are, were entered twice in the Colony records. The first description of Nathaniel Warren's suit is very basic; the second restates the case in a slightly amplified form. According to that second entry, Jane's petition was actually written testimony,

*...conserning sundry passages and discourses between her and Mis Elizabeth Warren ye mother of the said Nathaniel Warren, about the time of their contract by which the said Mistress Collier did conceive her grandchild should by promise have been Invested and entered in more lands then the said Mistress Warren doth now acknowledge.*[25]

In other words, Jane Collier, grandmother of the bride, and Elizabeth Warren, mother of the groom, had reached a premarital agreement about which of Elizabeth's lands would eventually fall to Nathaniel Warren and his wife. Jane now claimed that Elizabeth had reneged on that agreement. Jane's standing in the case is clear: only two people were present when that conversation was held, and Jane was one of them. The arrangement between Jane Collier and Elizabeth Warren, however, had not been entered into the Colony records. The only evidence was verbal and only Jane could provide the testimony to support Nathaniel's suit.

The third question is why Jane took the additional step of actually signing on as a partner in the suit. Robert Bartlett provided a petition in support of Elizabeth Warren, yet he did not sign on. Perhaps Nathaniel Warren and Jane Collier hoped that the public support of a woman of maturity and standing in the community would help to overcome the unfavorable "optics" of a young man suing his own mother.[26] If so, that hope was of no avail. When the arbiters made their decision, they largely found in Elizabeth Warren's favor, firmly put Nathaniel in his place, and did not mention Jane Collier at all.[27]

In contrast to this pair of litigious women, Elizabeth Collier, who was Sarah's sister and Jane's daughter, appears in the colonial records as a competent – and non-combative – servant of the Plymouth General Court.

Elizabeth Collier was 18 years old when, in November 1637, she married Constant Southworth, the son of Alice (Carpenter) (Southworth) Bradford and stepson of Plymouth Colony Governor William Bradford. The couple made their home in Duxbury, where eight children were born. They are known, as with the children of Sarah and Love Brewster, only through their father's will. In that will, written 20 February 1678/9 and probated 7 June 1679, Constant Southworth gave to his "dear and loving wife Elizabeth Southworth, for and during the term of her natural life, my dwelling house with the outhousing and mill belonging to it..." with all his uplands and meadows in Duxbury and Marshfield. He also named Elizabeth his sole executor.[28]

Almost simultaneously, on 3 June 1679, Elizabeth appeared in the Plymouth Colony Records: "The Court has agreed with Mistress Elizabeth Southworth to make provision for the magistrates table in all respects as formerly..."[29]

This agreement is understandable only in the context of the colony's bureaucracy, those measures that underlie any government's laws, making it possible for policies and functions to be carried out. Inevitably, bureaucracies grow – and their growth is usually unplanned. Unanticipated needs arise, solutions are implemented. And there were many unanticipated needs in Plymouth as its population and geographical range expanded.

The Plymouth Colony records were silent for a long time about just what need the so-called "magistrates table" fulfilled. The term, undefined, first appeared in the 1646 colonial records, when a committee was authorized to devise a method of defraying its expenses. The Court

accepted the committee's recommendation for a new excise tax on wine, beer and tobacco.[30] The actual cost of the magistrates table for one year was not recorded until 1653/4 when the Court authorized 20 to defray its expenses.[31]

The first actual description of the magistrates table appeared 3 June 1657, twenty-two years before Elizabeth Collier Southworth's tenure, when a committee recommended that several actions be taken. The first was that "Mistress Bradford shall be satisfied by the Treasurer what charges she had been at in entertaining our honored Governor and magistrates for this present Court." This action, at long last, explains that the function of the magistrates table was to provide room and board for the magistrates (the Governor and the Assistants) while the General Court was in session and they were, presumably, away from home.[32] It is quite possible that, at the time, the magistrates were being fed and housed at Governor Bradford's residence.

The recommendation raises another question, however. Why MISTRESS Bradford? Given the contemporary protocol of considering the husband "point person" for any activity taken within a family, no matter who was actually carrying out a particular function, the expected name would be that of William Bradford. The answer lies in the date 3 June 1657. William Bradford had died one month earlier.

The committee's second recommendation, that Mistress Bradford should not only be repaid for her expenses for the current Court, but she should have £10 "to be paid unto her out of the Treasurer, to satisfy for such trouble and charge as she shall sustain in entertaining of our honored Governor and magistrates for the ensuing year" made it clear that Alice was indeed personally involved in the provisioning and not simply being repaid, as William Bradford's widow, for expenses he had incurred before his death. The third recommendation gave Alice Bradford a masculine "provisioning partner" (her son Constant Southworth), with his own funds, as well as reinforcing the usual household hierarchy by naming William Bradford as the earlier recipient of the actual money for provisioning:

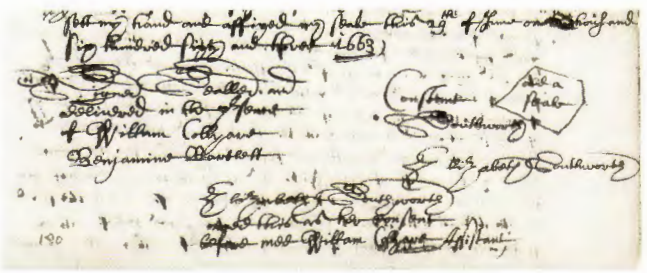
*Whereas, upon our desire and request, Constant Southworth is willing to make provision for our honored Governor and magistrates for the ensuing year, we do agree – that he shall have twenty pounds paid him by the country, in such pay as was formerly paid to our late honored Governor....*[33]

The committee's intent might not have been to limit Alice Bradford's personal autonomy, but rather to allow Constant Southworth to seamlessly move into the position. Constant, who had been regularly serving as a deputy in the General Court since 1652, was named Colony Treasurer in 1659 and, thereafter, appeared alone in the records handling the magistrates table.[34] It was about this time that the functions of the magistrates table were moved to the newly-purchased "Country House" in Plymouth's Town Square; on 13 June 1660, the Treasurer (Constant Southworth) was ordered not only to renovate the building but also "to provide some conveniency of beding there for special occations."[35]

When Elizabeth (Collier) Southworth was eventually named in June 1679 as administrator of the magistrates table, she, like Alice Bradford, had just been widowed. Elizabeth was now authorized to carry on by herself in handling the not inconsiderable sum of 42 of "current silver money of New England" that she had been allotted for the year. Her duties belonged to the typical female domestic sphere. In addition to arranging board, she was to make provision "for the use of bedding and household stuff improved thereabouts, for the full year following, viz, for four Courts." We do know, thanks to a deed that Elizabeth Southworth had signed on 29 June 1663, that she, and presumably her sisters, had been taught ,probably by their mother, to read and write.[36] We now learn that Elizabeth was also capable of keeping financial records that were detailed and accurate enough to satisfy the Court, it being ordered that,

*...at the expiration of the year, at the making up of her accounts in this behalf, if she does not find herself a sufficient gainer, that then the Court will consider thereof with some additional satisfaction according to equity and righteousness.*[37]

The description of Elizabeth's appointment as manager of the magistrates table also tells us that she was not working *pro bono*. The Court expected that she not only pay expenses out of that 42 but earn a profit for herself as well; if that profit fell short of what was deemed fair, the Court would pay for her time and effort. It was



▲ A 29 June 1663 deed signed by both Constant Southworth and Elizabeth Southworth, witnessed by William Collier and Benjamin Bartlett, with Elizabeth's signature acknowledged before William Collier in his capacity as an Assistant of the General Court, as found in the Plymouth Colony land records 2:2:129.

highly unusual for a woman to operate independently within the public sphere, particularly as a paid, albeit untitled, agent of the Colony Court, and was an exceptional recognition of Elizabeth's capabilities.

Elizabeth's appearance in the 3 June 1679 records was her last. She probably lived until at least 1682 when, on 7 July, new arrangements were made for supplying the magistrates table, and the task given, at least nominally, to a man, William Clarke.[38]

Elizabeth's actions, and those of her sister and her mother, do convey a sense of individual purpose, even of character. What is truly unique about the Colliers, however, is the depth of the available information; most of Plymouth's women are far more lightly documented, if documented at all. While this incompleteness in the records prevents us from gaining a coherent picture of the colony's women as a whole, the Collier women do demonstrate that, within the ambiguities of actual life, some women in Plymouth Colony found and took advantage of what opportunities they could to protect their rights and to utilize their individual skills and abilities.

The only absolute and unequivocal conclusion we can draw is that life in Plymouth Colony was not nearly as simple and clear as its tightly defined social structure and laws might suggest, reminding us that societies are made, not of archetypes, but of individuals.

Peggy Baker is a Plymouth, Massachusetts Historian and Editor of the Thomas Rogers Family of the GSMD Silver Books. She is the Director Emerita of the Pilgrim Society and Pilgrim Hall Museum, and an Honorary Life Member of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants. She is a frequent contributor to *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine.*

1 Mendelson, Sara and Patricia Crawford. *Women in Early Modern England* (Oxford, U.K.: Clarendon Press, 1988), 38, 50, 135; Eleanor Hubbard. *City Women: Money, Sex & the Social Order in Early Modern London* (Oxford, U.K.: Oxford University Press, 2012), 2, 11-12.

2 Shurtleff, Nathaniel B., ed. *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England* (Boston: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1855), 11:13, 113 (hereafter PCR).

3 "London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812," (database online) Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. The baptism of youngest daughter Ruth Collier was only recently discovered by Nicola Waddington and William E. Cole, and generously shared in their lecture "English Records: Barely Known Treasure Troves," Eastham (MA) Public Library, 28 Sept. 2019.

4 Anderson, Robert Charles. *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633,* 3 vols. (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995), 1:446-50.

5 *PCR* 1:30, 6:14, 1:34, 1:68; *Mayflower Descendant* 5:23 (hereafter *MD).*

6 Bangs, Jeremy Dupertuis. Trans., *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth of New England: Deeds, &c., Vol. II, 1651-1663* (Leiden, The Netherlands: Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, 2016), p. 269-71 /DPL II(2): 29-30.

7 *MD* 5:23, 6:204.

8 *MD* 6:230, 17:70; *MD* 2:209-210; *PCR* 12:216; *MD* 6:204.

9 Yentch, Ann et al. Trans., *Plymouth Colony Probate Records, 1620-1692,* (Mass. and R.I.: Plimoth Plantation, Brown University & Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants; 4 vols., printed by Inferonics, 1990), document set 69.

10 *PCR* 12:205.

11 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 194-95/DPL II (1): 193.

12 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 75-76/DPL II (1): 106-109.

13 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. III,* p. 577-80/DPL III (1): 196.

14 Rodgers, Robert H. *Middlesex County in the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay in New England: Records of Probate and Administration, 3 vols.* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1999, 2001 & 2005), 2:292.

15 Ibid, 2:293-296.

16 Ibid., 2:297.

17 Ibid., 2:297-99, 292.

18 *PCR,* 12:115-17.

19 Ibid., 6:17-18.

20 Ibid., 7:226-27.

21 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 75-76/DPL II (1): 73.

22 Monaghan, E. Jennifer. *American Quarterly* 40 (1988): 18-41, "Literacy Instruction and Gender in Colonial New England."

23 *PCR* 2:94.

24 "London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials" Online.

25 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 76-78/DPL II (1): 75-78.

26 Jane Collier was not a widow when she signed on to Nathaniel Warren's lawsuit; her husband William Collier was living (but did not sign). It may have been that Jane was considered a widow for the purposes of this suit, her first husband (Sarah's grandfather) having died and left her a widow, before her remarriage to William Collier. Or, perhaps, William was content to have an independent wife.

27 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 76-78/DPL II (1): 75-78.

28 Yentsch et al, *Plymouth Colony Probate Records,* document set 485.

29 *PCR* 6:14.

30 Ibid., 2:101, 103.

31 Ibid., 3:51.

32 Ibid., 3:120.

33 Ibid., 3:120-21.

34 Ibid., 3:162.

35 Ibid., 3:195.

36 Bangs, *Plymouth Colony Deeds, Vol. II,* p. 425-26/DPL II (2): 129.

37 *PCR,* 6:14.

38 Ibid., 6:93.

# Online Discoveries: Records of Plymouth Colony, Part 1 - Published Records

*by Dale H. Cook*

Thanks to the *Silver Books Five Generations Project* of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, those documenting their *Mayflower* ancestries do not need to seek out records of Plymouth Colony for documentation. Those seeking documentation for descent from other Plymouth Colony families, or those who wish to examine the records cited by the *Silver Books*, will want access to those records. Large portions of the Colony records, and other essential early records and contemporary writings, have been published and are the focus of this column. My next column will address images of the manuscript records of the Colony.

The Plymouth Colony records were originally in a series of manuscript volumes which often contained a variety of records within a single volume. In 1818 the manuscript pages were separated, repaired when necessary, grouped by subject matter, and rebound in a new series of volumes.

Between 1855 and 1861 twelve volumes of transcriptions of the Colony's records were published, bound in nine or ten volumes depending upon edition, and reprinted in six volumes in 1968.[1] The project was interrupted by the Civil War and not completed. The published volumes are available at the Internet Archive[2] and can be downloaded.[3] The volumes contain:

Volumes 1-6: Court Orders
Volume 7: Judicial Acts
Volume 8: Miscellaneous Records
Volume 9-10: Acts of the Commissioners of the United Colonies
Volume 11: Laws
Volume 12: Deeds, etc., including a book of Indian records for their lands

Most of probate records and deeds were not published in the original twelve volumes. Transcriptions of the first half of the probate records were published in 1996,[4] but that volume is not in the public domain and so is not online. It is available in many libraries with significant New England genealogical collections. For decades researchers needed to consult the individual indexes in the original volumes when looking for the records for an individual. I have compiled a consolidated index to the twelve original volumes plus the 1996 volume of probates, and you can download that index in PDF format.[5]

Many colony records that were not published in the original series were published in *Mayflower Descendant* beginning in the first (1899) volume, especially numerous probate records and deeds, some as transcriptions and some as abstracts. Other Colony records were published in other journals including *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Portions of other colony records were published in books. The most significant of those is a volume of uncategorized fragments published in 1918.[6] It is in the public domain and can be downloaded from the Internet Archive.[7] I have indexed all of the published Plymouth Colony probate records that I have seen in a downloadable PDF file.[8] An index to published Plymouth Colony deeds is in preparation.

Even after the original manuscript record pages were sorted and rebound there remained some admixture of records types within some volumes. Volume twelve of the published records contains two of the most important early records that help us to determine which *Mayflower* passengers and family members were alive in two years. The first is the record of the division of land in 1623.[9] It is organized into three sections, the first showing the surviving passengers of the *Mayflower* voyage of 1620, the second showing the surviving passengers of the *Fortune* voyage of 1621, and the third showing the surviving passengers *Anne* and *Little James* voyage of 1623.

The second early record is the division of cattle[10] in 1627. Volume 8 contains most of the vital records of the Colony (some are found in the volumes of Court Records), as well as lists of freemen which help to determine when later immigrants arrived in the Colony. The volumes of Court Orders are also helpful in determining when immigrants arrived.

Dale H. Cook webmaster@plymouthcolony.net serves as the Plymouth County Coordinator for the USGenWeb Project, and specializes in Plymouth Colony families, especially those of Bridgewater, MA.

1 Nathaniel B. Shurtleff (Vols. 1-8) and David Pulsifer (Vols. 9-12), Editors. *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England*, 12 Volumes, issued bound as 9 or 10 (Boston: The Press of William White, Printer to the Commonwealth, 1855-1861); Reprinted in 6

Volumes (New York: AMS Press, 1968) [Hereafter *Plymouth Colony Records*].

2 The Internet Archive at Archive.org holds the most significant online collection of scanned public domain books and magazines.

3 See https://archive.org/search.hp?query=title%3A%28%22Records%20of%20the%20colony%20of%20New%20Plymouth%22%29 - to avoid typing in that long URL use the Internet Archive search at https://archive.org/advancedsearch.php and type "Records of the Colony of New Plymouth" into the title search field, including quotation marks.

4 Charles H. Simmons, Jr., Plymouth Colony Records (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1996).

5 See https://plymouthcolony.net/resources/pcr.html#pcr

6 Charles Henry Pope. The Plymouth Scrap Book: The Oldest Original Documents Extant in Plymouth Archives, Printed Verbatim, Some Reproduced (Boston: C. E. Goodspeed & Co., 1918).

7 See https://archive.org/details/plymouthscrapboo00pope/page/n6 or search the Archive (URL in Note 3) for "Plymouth Scrap Book."

8 See https://plymouthcolony.net/resources/pcr.html#ocw

9 *Plymouth Colony Records* 12:3-6, reprinted in *Mayflower Descendant* 1:227-230, and reprinted and explained in the *Mayflower Quarterly* 40:7-13, 55-62. The volumes of *Mayflower Descendant* that are in the public domain can be downloaded from the Internet Archive (search for "Mayflower Descendant"), and all volumes except for the last five years are online at AmericanAncestors.org for members of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Although some relatively recent volumes of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* are online at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants site TheMayflowerSociety.org, the best online resource, currently comprising volumes 1 to 50, is online at AmericanAncestors.org for members of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

10 In the early 17th century the term "cattle" referred to any type of livestock, including what we today call cattle as well as sheep, goats and pigs.

# Mayflower Descendants Wed in 1911: Joseph Latimer (1883-1959) and Grace Davis (1889-1927)

*by Merna Forster*

Nearly three hundred years after the *Mayflower* landed at Cape Cod, two descendants of the Pilgrims married in a small town in the foothills of Alberta, Canada.

I doubt that my maternal grandparents, Joseph Sumner Latimer and Grace Belle Davis, realized they were *Mayflower* descendants. The couple, both immigrants from the United States, wed on October 10, 1911 in Okotoks. More than a century later, I joined the General Society of Mayflower Descendants after verifying that my grandfather was a descendant of William and Mary Brewster.[1] I then proved that my grandmother was a descendant of Edward Fuller and his wife.[2]

Joseph S. Latimer was born in 1883 in Union City, Tennessee, the state where his ancestor Col. Jonathan Latimer moved from New London, Connecticut after serving in the American Revolution. Grandfather Latimer passed along little information about his kin. As a young teenager, once I began researching my family tree, I found it fairly easy to trace the Latimers as they were of a well-documented line that several family members had already researched.

After more than a decade of mailing queries to relatives, I received a copy of a lengthy letter written back in 1882 to Thomas J. Latimer, my 2nd great-grandfather, in Tennessee by a keen Latimer genealogist. The male relative in Connecticut had checked town records in New London. He shared detailed information about the Latimers, back to our mariner ancestor Captain Robert Latimer who settled there about 1660.

The historical material I found, pre-Internet, focused on the men in the Latimer family, and I never heard any suggestions of *Mayflower* ancestors. Though several researchers identified the wives of the direct Latimer ancestors in my line, most largely ignored these women. That old letter showed that Col. Jonathan Latimer was the son of a woman named Borradel Denison. When the Internet provided a plethora of resources for genealogists, I soon realized she was the granddaughter of Grace Brewster. My *Mayflower* ancestry had been hidden in plain sight. I was thrilled to learn that I was a descendant of William Brewster.

By the time one of my sons had to take his family tree to class when he was in grade school, I sent him off with a picture of the *Mayflower*

▲ The Latimer Family with their eldest five children, c. 1920. L to R: Grace with baby, Dale, Myron, Glen, Ermine, Joseph, Joycelyn. [Photo by Harry Pollard[3]]

and information on his descent from the Pilgrims. Although it would take me longer to put together the documentation required by the Mayflower Society, I had already proven my descent from Col. Jonathan Latimer in order to join the Daughters of the American Revolution, so I had collected many records.

Grandfather Latimer arrived in Canada about a year before he married. His father had purchased some farmland just south of Calgary, Alberta and encouraged Joseph S. Latimer to manage the property there. Dewinton wasn't much more than a train stop, but there was a one-room school nearby – where a young woman named Grace B. Davis was the teacher.

Grace B. Davis was born on a farm near Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin in 1889. Just six years old when her father died from pneumonia, my grandmother did not likely hear many family stories from him. Her widowed mother, Annabelle Davis, immigrated to Alberta about 1896 with Grace and her siblings. Annabelle's father had homesteaded west of Olds, so the Davis family settled in the same area. Orphaned at the age of twelve after her mother died, Grace later attended a teacher training school in Calgary and began teaching. Sadly, Grace died at the age of 38 and was not able to share a lot of family history with her seven young children.

Compared to the Latimer lineage, I found it tougher to trace the origins of my Davis family. Prior to farming in Wisconsin for several generations, the family had lived in the state of New York, and I had problems finding records. I came to the conclusion that my third great-grandparents on that line were David Davis, who fought in the War of 1812 and fortunately had pension records, and his wife Althea/Altha Knickerbocker who came from Connecticut. Intrigued by the Knickerbockers and my Dutch ancestors, I learned that Althea was the daughter of Solomon Knickerbocker and Anne Heath – and that the latter descended from Pilgrims Edward Fuller and his wife. Although I was glad to find out I had more *Mayflower* ancestors, I spent years gathering the required documentation to prove it. I almost gave up, but I had no doubt I was right – especially since both my

▲ Joseph and Grace Latimer.

mother and I had many DNA matches with Knickerbockers. I could see from their trees that the only way I was related to these people was if Althea Knickerbocker was indeed my ancestor.

When I finally received a letter and certificate from the Mayflower Society, advising me my lineage from Edward Fuller was approved, I was a happy genealogist. I only wish that my grandparents Joseph S. Latimer and Grace B. Davis had known about their *Mayflower* heritage.

Merna Forster is a member of the Canadian and Massachusetts Mayflower Societies.

1 Joseph Sumner[11] Latimer *(Joseph Armstead[10], Thomas J.[9], Daniel[8], Wetherell[7], Jonathan Latimer[6], Borodell Denison[5], Mary Wetherell[4], Grace[3], Jonathan[2], William[1] Brewster).*

2 Grace Belle[10] Davis *(Ephraim Woodward[9], Adeliah Harmon Davis[8], Althea Knickerbocker[7], Anne Heath[6], Mehitable Crippen[5], Thankful[4], John[3], Samuel[2], Edward[1] Fuller).*

3 Harry Pollard became a notable photographer in Calgary, Alberta after arriving there in 1899 and establishing a studio. He gained fame for his photos of Indigenous peoples in Alberta and the Klondike gold rush. See the Provincial Archives of Alberta, at: hermis.alberta.ca/paa/Details.aspx?ObjectID=PR0125&dv=True&deptID=1

## 2020 Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the 2020 General Society of Mayflower Descendants Scholarship Winners! Note that full details of our winners will be included in the winter issue of *MQM*.

**1st Place** $4,250
Maggie Davidson

**2nd Place** $3,750
Claire Madsen

**Mary Chilton Winslow** $3,000
Guy Lanier

**2nd Place** $3,750
Madison Grogan

**3rd Place** $3,250
Jack Patterson

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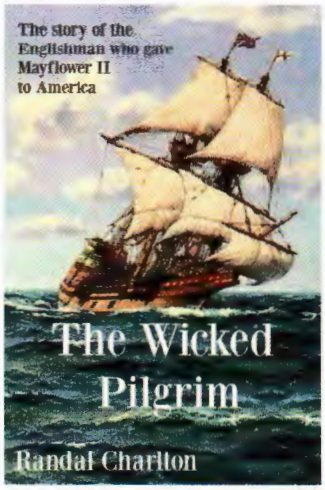
Don't miss the boat!

# The Wicked Pilgrim Lecture – A Virtual Presentation

*By Andrew Raybold Whipple*




On a Friday afternoon in late May 2020, Randal Charlton, the son of Warwick Charlton, spoke to an international Zoom meeting of *Mayflower* enthusiasts. Randal spoke about his father and the role he played in building the *Mayflower II*. It was an engaging half hour lecture followed by a question and answer period.

The story unfolds in 1954 when Warwick Charlton was enjoying a pint in a London pub with a few colleagues. They were bemoaning the fact that as of yet no reproduction of the *Mayflower* had been built. In a moment of passion and enthusiasm, Warwick slammed his beer mug down upon the bar and declared in a booming voice, "I won't drink another drop of beer until the *Mayflower* is rebuilt and sailed across the Atlantic!" And so began the extraordinary odyssey of the building of *Mayflower II*.

During a virtual presentation sponsored by the Alden Kindred of America and titled, *The Wicked Pilgrim: The True Story of the Englishman Who Gave Mayflower II to America,* Randal spoke of his father's endearing project and shared photos connected to the original building of *Mayflower II* in England.

Randal spoke about his father's passionate personality, the reasons he built the *Mayflower II*, and how his father succeeded in building and sailing the *Mayflower* in spite of enormous challenges. His father, Randal reports, "was a shy man but a man of great passions...he was a man who possessed immense, sometimes manic, energy.... he was built as toughest teak wood and over six feet tall with a powerful voice which he used to good effect when arguing for the causes he believed in."

With no financial resources, few supporters, and no knowledge of wooden sailing ships, Warwick built the replica of the famous ship in under two years. A remarkable feat indeed!

Many people believe the ship was a gift of the British government or a gift of the English people to the American people. Both of these assumptions are incorrect. In fact, Randal explains, "It was my father who began the plan to build *Mayflower* and he ended up taking responsibility for completing the entire project."

▲ VP Nixon with crew.

This amazing story of perseverance and love highlights one man's efforts to gift the American people with a replica of the *Mayflower.* Motivated by a desire to thank the American people for their help in World War II, Warwick Charlton devoted his time, personal resources, and extraordinary skills to building and sailing the ship to America.

Randal reported, initially there was little support from public officials for building the *Mayflower II*, some even saying this project was never going to happen. Evidently, the feeling was it would send the wrong message regarding the future of English and American relations.

Undaunted, Warwick Charlton carried on with his plans through shear determination. Employing slight deceptions and the amplification of facts, hence the moniker, "Wicked Pilgrim," Warwick eventually convinced and cajoled enough people to support his project.

Remarkably, he was able to find the plans for the ship where none existed, secure a wooden ship builder, find a captain and crew to sail the ship across the Atlantic, and finally he was able to secure American partners to look after the ship after its arrival in America.

Randal's thoughts and commentary are further amplified in his book titled, *The Wicked Pilgrim: The True Story of the Englishman Who Gave Mayflower II to America.* The book was published by Three Sisters Publishing in 2019.

Randal concluded his reflection by discussing the great and lasting partnership between his father and Henry Hornblower II, the founder of Plimoth Plantation. Henry agreed to take care of the *Mayflower II* in its new home in Pymouth, Massachusetts.

Clearly, the lasting result of building the *Mayflower II* and the gifting of it to America has brought immense joy to millions of Americans who have toured and viewed this national treasure for many years.

**Picture credits:**
Three Sisters Publishing

Andrew Raybold Whipple is a member of the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Mayflower Societies. In addition to his John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley roots, he descends from 14 other *Mayflower* Passengers. He is a regular contributor to the *MQM*.

▲ Henry Hornblower from Plimoth Plantation.

▲ Arrival in Plymouth, MA, 1957.

▲ *Mayflower II* guides in Brixham

# Richard Chilton of St. Paul, Canterbury, and his 1549 Will

*By Michael R. Paulick*

Richard Chilton was the grandfather of James Chilton, the oldest passenger on the *Mayflower*. He was the earliest known Chilton to reside in the parish of "Sanncte Paules without the walles of the Cittye of Canntorburye."[1]

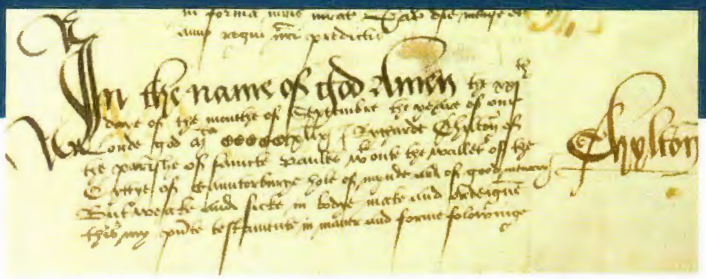
Richard's will which was recorded in the Canterbury Probate Register, was a copy, not a signed original.[2] The short will, with sections over two register pages, was well written and mostly easy to read. The will was dated 21 September, 1549; Chilton did not list an occupation, and described himself as "weake and sicke in bodye."

In the religious preamble he asked God "to make me partaker of the Joyes [in heaven] that he haste prepared for his alecte people."[3] Chilton indicated that he believed he was one of God's elect who was chosen for eternal salvation. This is similar to a prayer for the burial service in the Church of England *1549 Book of Common Prayer* which included "our brother departed . . . may, with all thine elect Saints [true Christians], obtain eternal joy."[4] Although this book was published about four months after the death of Chilton, the prayer and belief in election was, most likely, already in common use in the Church of England.

Chilton requested burial beside his wife in St. Martin churchyard. St. Paul, his Church, had no churchyard until 1591[5] so burials took place in other churchyards or beneath the church floor. St. Martin Church is only one and a half miles away. Chilton bequeathed sixpence to the vicar of St. Paul to pray for him and another sixpence to James Pyers who also was a witness to his will. He requested that bread, valued 2 shillings, be given to poor people on "the daye of my buryall."

Chilton had three servants who were named Alyce Hendyman, Clemente Grenlas and Julyan. He bequeathed each servant a garment belonging to his deceased wife, Isabell. Chilton also bequeathed an "old petycote" to a "poore woman dwelling with moo[more] whiche cam[e] from Bolloigne." I am most grateful to Dr. Helen Wicker, Kent archivist, who transcribed this difficult sentence.

The unnamed poor woman with others, from Boulogne, France may have been members of the French Church in Canterbury established about 1547/48 by John Utenhovius. John Strype, the historian (1643-1737) in his *Ecclesiastical Memories* identified Utenhovius as the Church founder.[6] French Protestants or Huguenots




▲ Rycharde Chilton, 1549 will, courtesy of the Kent Archives and Local History Service, PRC/17/26/285a.

immigrated to England during the reign of Henry VIII to escape religious persecution.[7] Dr. Sheila Sweetinburgh, a Kent historian and author, suggested that the "poore woman" may have been a refugee from military sieges in Boulogne between the English and the French in about the mid-1540s.[8] A transcription of the will was published in the *Mayflower Quarterly* in 1961. There was an error in transcription of the sentence concerning the "poore woman" from Boulogne.[9] The unnamed "poore woman" did not live with Chilton but with "more" [others].

The remainder of all his goods he bequeathed to his son, "Lyonell Chilton," and named him sole executor. Lyonell was the only living relative mentioned. The witnesses were John Clark, the vicar of St. Paul, James Pyers and Margaret Hammer. Lyonell may have been underage as probate was granted on 30 November 1549 to will witnesses John Clark and James Pyers. Joseph Meadows Cowper, the Canterbury historian, wrote that John Clerke or Clark was the vicar of St. Paul from 1512 to 1558.[10] He probably was an older man who had known Richard Chilton for most of his adult life and, very likely, christened his son, Lyonell. It was common for a parish vicar to witness a will but it was unusual for him to be granted joint probate.

## St. Paul

St. Paul was described in 1799 by Edward Hasted, the historian, as a "small mean [lowly] building consisting of two isles and two chancels having a square tower at the west end, in which hang three bells." The Church was endowed in 1268,[11] a survey of the parish in 1563, 14 years after Richard's death, counted only 39 houses. St. Paul was one of the poorest parishes in the Canterbury suburbs.[12]

## Some Early Chiltons in Canterbury

According to Hasted, Robert Chilton in 1334 and William Chilton in 1424, 1426, 1427, 1432, 1433, 1437, and 1444 were members of parliament for Canterbury.[13] William Chilton was also a bailiff of Canterbury in 1445.[14]

Nicholas Chilton, a vicar of Holy Cross Church, Westgate was buried in 1400.[15] J. Meadows Cowper published a list of Intrantes in Canterbury in 1904. Intrantes were persons permitted to live and trade in the City. The list included Thomas Chilton, a pistor [baker], in 1414, John Chilton, a baker, in 1415, Thomas Chilton, a hoombaker [unknown def.], in 1428, and William Chylton, a mercer, in 1502.[16] There is a 1503 will for William Chilton who may have been the mercer listed in 1502.[17] It is unlikely that documentation can be discovered to link any of these early Chiltons to Richard Chilton or the parish of St. Paul.

A William Chylton "St. Paul Cant[erbury] late [recently] Sevington" was the plaintiff in a defamation suit against Mgt [Margaret] Glover of Willesboro[ugh], in October 1591.[18] He was, almost certainly, a relative of the St. Paul parish Chiltons. Sevington is a suburb of Ashford, Kent, which is about 17 miles from the parish of St Paul. Further details might be discovered through additional research.

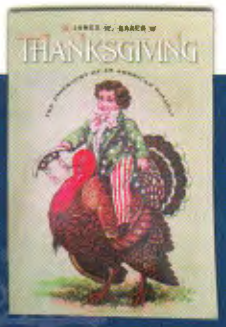
Chilton descendants are fortunate to be able to document their ancestry from the wills of Richard Chilton in 1549 and his son, Lionel Chilton, in 1582.[19] Very few people are able to document their ancestry to the early 1500s.

Michael R. Paulick (paulickmike@gmail.com) is a researcher specializing in the study of *Mayflower* Pilgrims from Kent. His articles have been published in *Mayflower Descendant*, *Mayflower Quarterly*, *Mayflower Journal*, *New England Ancestors*, *American Ancestors*, *Bygone Kent*, and *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. He is also the editor of *Robert Cushman, The Cry of A Stone*, reprinted in 2016.

1 Chilton will, 1549, PRC/17/26/285a, 1.
2 Richard Chilton 1549 Will, PRC/17/26/285a, 2 pages, at Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone, Kent.
3 Chilton will, 1549, PRC/17/26/285a, 2.
4 Rev. Henry Baskerville Walton. *The First Book of Common Prayer of Edward VI and The Ordinal of 1549,* (London: Rivingtons, 1869), upaginated, PDF page 432 of 518.
5 Edward Hasted. *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent, Volume IV,* (Canterbury: Simmons and Kirkby, 1799), 492.
6 John Strype. *Ecclesiastical memorials,* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1822, reprint), 123.
7 Francis W. Cross. *History of the Walloon & Huguenot Church at Canterbury,* (Canterbury: The Huguenot Society of London, 1898), 2
8 Dr. Sheila Sweetinburgh private correspondence.
9 Mrs. Russell Mack Skelton, Copies of Wills of the Chilton Family, *Mayflower Quarterly*, Vol. 27, Nov 1961, 5.
10 Joseph Meadows Cowper, editor. *The Register Book of Christenings Marriag[e]s and Burialls in the Parish of St. Paule without the walles of the Citie of Canterburie. 1562-1800.*, (Canterbury: Cross & Jackman, 1893), v.
11 Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey*, 491 and 492. Footnote 6.
12 Peter & Jennifer Clark. "The Social Economy of the Canterbury Suburbs: The evidence of the Census of 1563" in A. Detsicas & N. Yates, editors, *Studies in Modern Kentish History,* (Maidstone: Kent Archaeological Society, 1983), 67-69.
13 Edward Hasted. *The History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent:* Vol. XI. (Canterbury: W Bristow, 1800), 48. Edward Hasted, *The History of the Antient and Metropolitical City of Canterbury...,* (Canterbury: W. Bristow, 1801), 604.
14 William Chylton, bailiff, CCA-DCc-ChAnt/C/1003A, Grant, 1445, at Canterbury Cathedral Archives & Library.
15 Hasted, *The History and Topographical Survey,* Vol. XI, 255n. Footnote 13.
16 J. Meadows Cowper. *Intrantes: a List of Persons Admitted to Live and Trade Within the City of Canterbury, on Payment of an Annual Fine, from 1392 to 1592,* (Canterbury: Cross and Jackman, 1904), 40, 41, 64, 159.
17 William Chilton, 1503 will, PRC/17/9/2b, see Canterbury Probate Records (1396-1858) Database.
18 Wm Chylton, Defamation case, DCb/PRC/18/3/15, at Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone.
19 Jon Wardlow & Simon Neal, transcribers, "Lyonel Chilton's Will," *Mayflower Descendant*, Volume 62, No. 1, (Spring 2013): 72-77.

*THANKSGIVING*
BY JAMES W. BAKER

In this, the first in-depth study of the most American of holidays, James W. Baker sweeps away lingering myths and misconceptions to show how Thanksgiving was born and grew to be an essential part of the American spirit.




*Thanksgiving* by James W. Baker, 2009, $24.95.

Thanksgiving remains controversial up to the present day, as *Mayflower* descendants, Native Americans, and commercial exploiters compete for the American public's opinion of the holiday's contemporary significance and its future status. This is an intelligent and illuminating introduction to a beloved holiday and a fascinating cultural history of American and Americana.

To order, visit **TheMayflowerSociety.org/Shop**, call 508-746-5058 or email **Sales@TheMayflowerSociety.org.**

# A New Line Discovered To George Soule:
## Elizabeth (Kenyon[5]) Clark (1748-1790), MFIP (George Soule), #174

*By Jonathan E. Mitchell, Genealogical Research Chair, SMDRI*

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in Rhode Island is very fortunate to have one of its own members identify a previously unknown line to *Mayflower* passenger, George Soule. Sherry Connelly, SMDRI's new Membership Chair, has worked for three years to identify Elizabeth Kenyon Clark (1748-1790) of Richmond, Rhode Island as a great-great-granddaughter of George Soule. This discovery opens the possibility that many others may now be able to prove *Mayflower* ancestry to George Soule through this line, Elizabeth (Kenyon[5]) Clark (*Anna Barber,[4] Susannah West[3], Susannah[2] Soule, George[1] Soule*).[1]

Sherry began researching her maternal ancestry over twenty-five years ago. As a result of spending innumerable hours studying vital records and traveling throughout New England to state archives and cemeteries, she proved her descendancy from *Mayflower* passengers, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland and Richard Warren.

It was not until the passing of her father in 2016 that Sherry decided to focus her genealogical research on her paternal ancestry. In doing that research, she was pleased to learn that her ancestor, Joseph Clark, was a Rhode Islander and the brother of Dr. John Clark who, along with Roger Williams, was a co-founder of the State of Rhode Island.

The search for Elizabeth (Kenyon) Clark began when Sherry was compiling proof for a DAR application of her descendancy from Josiah Clark of Charlestown, RI who had served in the Revolutionary War. While transcripts from the *Josiah Clark Family Bible* stated that Josiah had eight children with an unnamed first wife, it seemed odd to her that his first wife's name was not included given that they had a large family.

Out of curiosity Sherry traveled to Waite Cemetery in Old Lyme, Connecticut where Josiah Clark had been buried to search for possible clues that might reveal the name of her unnamed sixth great-grandmother. Although an online search of the cemetery's burial index had indicated a footstone marked with the letters "E.C." was there along with stones for Josiah's second and third wives, she found that the stone inscriptions were no longer legible on any stone except for that marking the grave of Josiah.

Wondering if that "E" stood for Elizabeth, a common name at that time, Sherry began her quest to identify her sixth great-grandmother in earnest. After combing through quantities of unconfirmed online information, the name of Elizabeth "Henyon" surfaced, a name which seemed possibly a misspelling of the well-known Rhode Island surname, "Kenyon." Further research of cemetery listings in New London and Windham County, Connecticut and southern Rhode Island, the Barbour Collection and Findagrave.com revealed that a Kenyon family from Richmond, Rhode Island had relocated to a section of Voluntown, Connecticut, making them also early settlers of the newly formed town of Sterling.

Sherry next began to research Josiah's eight children and found that three of his sons with his unnamed wife were buried in the Smith Lake/Avery Morgan Cemetery in Groton, Connecticut. Additional online searching revealed a stone for Elizabeth Clark among those of Josiah's sons. Since the stone for Elizabeth visually matched those of the three Clark sons, Sherry felt confident that she was on the right track.

From the information on the stone, she learned that Elizabeth Clark had died in 1790 at the age of 42. A perusal of newspapers that were in print in 1790 led Sherry to find a May 1790 *Connecticut Gazette* death notice index with a listing for Elizabeth Clark which stated that she was, in fact, the wife of Josiah Clark, as well as a daughter of Sylvester Kenyon of Voluntown, Connecticut.

At that point, Sherry sought the help of Todd Holden, who was then a Co-Historian on SMDRI's Board. Todd was able to locate a copy of the actual 1790 newspaper page which contained the death notice of Elizabeth Clark which matched the index information that she had found previously.

With Todd's guidance, Sherry continued to research the background of her newly identified sixth great-grandmother's father, Sylvester Kenyon. Intrigued by the new information, Todd searched land records and other data, confirming that there was only one Sylvester Kenyon of the correct age and living in that area, during that time. Their combined efforts yielded information that Sylvester Kenyon was from Richmond, Rhode Island and that his wife was Anna (Barber) Kenyon.

A listing of children for Sylvester and Anna (Barber) Kenyon also indicated an unnamed child born *ca*1748, further confirming the parentage of Elizabeth Kenyon Clark.[2]

Other *Mayflower* members have submitted applications showing lineage to George Soule via other children of Anna (Barber) Kenyon, but none had ever been submitted through Elizabeth (Kenyon) Clark until Sherry had submitted hers. Her supplemental application as a descendant of George Soule was approved by SMDRI and GSMD just this year. Readers of this article may wish to check to see if they too share this lineage.

1 *Mayflower Families in Progress, George Soule,* 7th ed., 2015, #174.

2 Ibid.

# *Silver Book Mayflower Families*

## *Henry Samson Family, MF 20:2:322-24, Ix.*

### *Submitted by John Bradley Arthaud*

**Melinda W.[6] Latham** (*Stephen Latham[5], Abigail Hamner[4], William[3], ____[2] Samson, Henry[1]*) was born at Norway, Maine, 12 July 1819, daughter of Stephen and Abigail (Whitman) Latham. She was accurately stated to be living unmarried at Auburn, Maine, in 1850.[1] She married ca. 1851 **Hiram H. Niles** and had two children, both of whom were living in 1900, when they were enumerated at Lynn, Massachusetts, in the household of their son Frank O. Niles.[2] Melinda died at Lynn 1 January 1912, aged 92 years, 5 months and 20 days.[3] Hiram, born at Sangerville, Maine, 2 April 1825, son of Beniah and Samantha (Bailey) Niles, died at Lynn 10 May 1912, aged 87 years, 1 month, and 8 days.[4] Both are buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Lynn.[5]

Children of Hiram H. and Melinda W. (Latham) Niles:

i. Frank O. Niles[7], b. North Auburn, Maine, – Nov. 1851; m. Lynn, 20 Oct. 1881, Mary Florence Marsh.[6] Children 1900 census.

ii. Harry L. Niles, b. North Auburn ca. 1857; m. Lynn, 31 Dec. 1880, Minnie Florence Brown.[7] No children.[8]

The author gratefully acknowledges John Maltby, Redwood City, California, who identified this family.

John Bradley Arthaud, M.D., FASG, is the Researcher for the revision of the Chilton Silver Book. He also completed the research for the Billington Silver Book, vols. 2 and 3, as well as editing vol. 1. In addition, he was the researcher for the Sarah (Alden) Standish generations and has contributed to other Silver Book families. Dr. Arthaud has had countless articles published in genealogical journals.

1 Samson MF 20:2:324.

2 U.S. Census, Ward 4, Lynn, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 380, sheet 2B, fam. 45. Frank was born Maine Nov. 1851. His wife was the mother of four children, all of whom were living in 1900.

3 Massachusetts Vital Records 1912/61:116, where her birth date is 13 July and parents' full names are given.

4 Massachusetts Vital Records 1912/62:154.

5 *Findagrave.com* Memorial #41844700 and 41844775, respectively.

6 Massachusetts Vital Records 325:282, his birthplace.

7 Massachusetts Vital Records 316:365, his birthplace.

8 U.S. Census, Ward 3, Lynn, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 372, sheet 14B, his parents in household.

THE MAYFLOWER
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

PO BOX 3297
PLYMOUTH, MA
02361-3297 USA

General Society of Mayflower Descendants

Periodical

*Volume 86, No. 3*
*Fall 2020*

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